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CHENNAI-BORN ARCHITECT BEHIND TRUMP'S AI POLICIES TO LEAVE JOB

Sriram Krishnan is stepping down from his role as senior policy adviser for Artificial Intelligence to US President Donald Trump

PUSHED FOR ROLLBACK OF REGULATIONS ON AI

Krishnan was an architect of the Trump administration's 'AI Action Plan', which provided a blueprint to roll back regulation of the emerging technology and promote the construction of data centres across the US. He also was among tech advisers who helped craft an executive order limiting states' ability to regulate AI, which Trump signed in December

CRITICISED GREEN CARD CAP, DREW MAGA IRE

- Born in Chennai in 1984, Krishnan earned his Bachelor of Technology in Information Technology from SRM University in 2005, before moving to the US two years later to join Microsoft
- Krishnan had courted criticism from Trump's right-wing supporters over his calls to remove country-specific caps on green cards

42-yr-old

WORKED AT MICROSOFT, META AND X BEFORE JOINING THE WHITE HOUSE

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Teen hooked to online betting kills sis, father in Koppal dist

AMIT S UPADHYE @ KOPPAL

IN a shocker, an 18-year-old boy stabbed his father and sister to death in Koppal during a scuffle over his addiction to online betting. He also stabbed his mother and himself after a heated argument. Both have been admitted to a hospital. The incident was reported from Hosa Ayodhya village in Gangavathi taluk of Koppal district late on Saturday night.

The Gangavathi Rural police, who registered a case, said the accused, Sai Venkata Mandeep, was addicted to online betting and had lost over Rs 15 lakh of the family money in the last one year. On Saturday night, when his parents advised him against his addiction, Mandeep took hold of a kitchen knife and attacked them and his sister. His father, Venkatanaydu (45), a cook at a private school, and his sister Pragati (19) died, while his mother Soujanya was admitted to the Ballari Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS) in Ballari city. Mandeep too is being treated there.

Tata Rao, father of deceased Venkatanaydu, said, "On Saturday, we had clashes on the issue (online betting) throughout the day. When we went to sleep at night, Mandeep attacked his father, mother and sister. Pragati died on the spot, while my son died while being taken to hospital. I escaped and alerted the neighbours," he recalled.

Koppal SP Ram L Arasiddi visited the spot. The police said the family's finances were in doldrums because of Mandeep's addiction.

TMC's Mamata Banerjee and Abhishek with AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal, in New Delhi on Sunday | PTI

Amid strain, 23 Oppn parties to meet today

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

As many as 23 Opposition parties are set to attend the crucial INDIA bloc meeting on Monday to devise fresh strategies to corner the BJP government on key national issues with an eye on the 2029 general elections, the Congress said.

In a post on X, party general secretary Jairam Ramesh said 23 political parties have confirmed their participation in the "INDIA janbandhan" meeting. "There are some parties who have expressed their inability to attend this particular meeting for their own reasons, even though they have conveyed their strong opposition to the Modi government's policies and actions," Ramesh said.

The meeting comes amid growing friction within the bloc, with the DMK and AAP opting to skip and others expressing concerns about the Congress's conduct.

While the gathering is being seen as an effort to deepen coordination among Opposition parties, particularly after the recent round of assembly elections and amid evolving political equations in several states, a Samajwadi Party leader told this paper that the DMK's absence would be a major setback for the bloc. "The Congress will have to face several questions. Being the largest party, they failed to take other parties along," he said.

The DMK decided to boycott the meeting, citing Congress's "betrayal" in Tamil Nadu by joining the TVK government. The equation with the CPI(M) has also strained, with the Left party expressing displeasure over remarks by senior Congress leaders alleging collusion with the BJP in Kerala.

The meeting comes at the behest of the Trinamool Congress, which is facing an existential crisis. "Meeting with a common purpose and clear intent. INDIA united. Many parties look forward to meeting in the spirit of camaraderie," TMC MP Derek O'Brien said.

SP's Akhilesh Yadav, RJD's Manoj Jha, J&K CM Omar Abdullah, NCP's Supriya Sule, VCK's Thirumavalavan and others are expected to attend. TVK was not invited because it doesn't have MPs.

Kejri, Didi discuss way forward

Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee on Sunday met Aam Aadmi Party convener Arvind Kejriwal, a day ahead of a meeting of the INDIA bloc. The TMC described the meeting as "warm", and said the leaders held discussion on "the road ahead"

Brittas to represent CPI(M)

CPI(M) will be represented by its Rajya Sabha MP John Brittas at the meeting. CPI(M) general secretary M A Baby will not attend in protest over the Congress charge of a CPI(M)-BJP understanding in Kerala

Chorus against second cooking gas price hike since Iran conflict

OPEC+ hikes output

OPEC+ ministers decided Sunday to increase oil production quotas by 188,000 barrels per day for July. OPEC+ said the latest hike was "to support oil market stability" and "to accelerate profits for members

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

OPPOSITION parties on Sunday criticised the Centre over the latest increase in domestic LPG prices, accusing it of further burdening households already struggling with a rising cost of living and inflation.

However, the government maintained that despite the latest hike, domestic LPG prices in India remain lower than those prevailing in neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka.

The government raised the price of a 14.2-kg domestic LPG cylinder by ₹29, taking it to ₹942 from ₹913 in Delhi. The hike comes nearly three months after an increase of ₹60 announced in March amid a surge in global energy prices linked to West Asia conflict.

The Congress alleged that the government was passing the burden of rising costs onto ordinary citizens." Party president Mallikarjun Kharge questioned the government's handling of fuel supplies and pricing.

NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar warned that the government would pay a "political price" as frequent hikes in essential commodities were burdening the common man.

PMK leader Anbumani Ramadoss, an NDA ally, too demanded an immediate rollback. Likewise, CPI(M) leader Pinarayi Vijayan called it an "anti-people" decision and sought a quick rollback.

As for the Aam Aadmi Party, it said the hike in cooking gas price would intensify financial pressure on families across the country.

The Trinamool, too, accused the Centre of shifting the burden of global disruptions onto ordinary households. **P7**

EXPRESS READ

Red alert along coastal districts as monsoon enters Karnataka

BENGALURU: Widespread rainfall is likely across Karnataka over the week, with the India Meteorological Department issuing a red alert in coastal and parts of South and North interior districts as the monsoon advances further across the region. Dakshina Kannada and Udupi are under red alert on Monday and Tuesday, while Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga and Uttara Kannada will be under red alert on Tuesday and Wednesday. **P6**

Finally, Zverev wins French Open title

PARIS: Alexander Zverev secured his maiden Grand Slam title with a dramatic five-set victory over Italy's Flavio Cobolli in the French Open final on Sunday. The second seed became the first German man to win a Major tournament since Boris Becker at the 1996 Australian Open with a 6-1, 4-6, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-1 win. **P13**

Gehlot reignites debate on 2022 MLA rebellion

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

THE rift in Rajasthan Congress appears to be as raw as ever. Former Rajasthan Chief Minister **Ashok Gehlot** on Sunday asserted that the dramatic mass resignation by his loyalist MLAs in September 2022 was aimed solely at stopping Sachin Pilot from becoming Chief Minister, and not against the Congress high command, as widely believed.

Addressing reporters at the Constitution Club, Gehlot said the revolt erupted after Pilot's name was actively circulated for the CM's post. "Had the MLAs actually rebelled against the high command, would I have been able to remain Chief Minister?" he asked. The MLAs refused to accept Pilot as CM because he had huddled legislators to Manesar in 2020 in an attempt to topple the state government, Gehlot alleged.

He also rejected the long-held narrative that he declined the offer of Congress President to remain CM. "When Sonia Gandhi herself offered to make me national president... how could I refuse? It was a conspiracy," he said, claiming the sudden arrival of observers Mallikarjun Kharge and Ajay Maken triggered the events that painted him as power-hungry. The Pilot camp maintains the 2020 revolt targeted Gehlot's leadership.

DIGITAL ARREST

Cyber fraudsters resort to psychological tactics

RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

THREATS of arrest, a sense of urgency, isolation and intense mental pressure are among the key tactics used by fraudsters in "digital arrest" scams. Cybercrime investigators say the criminals are increasingly targeting people living alone and elderly citizens, exploiting fear and trust to siphon off large sums of money.

With recent cases of a retired teacher losing Rs 24 crore and a woman being duped of Rs 2.2 crore after being kept under digital arrest for more than 20 days, the spotlight has once again fallen on the sophisticated psychological methods employed by cyber fraudsters.

A senior officer from the Cyber Command Centre said that unlike other cyber frauds that rely on quick deception, digital arrest scams are carefully planned operations where criminals subject victims to prolonged mental pressure, fear and isolation before forcing them to transfer their money. **P7**

TRAILBLAZER

Pimenta, most powerful woman in football

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Oslo

RAFAELA Pimenta has had a few insults thrown in her general direction over the decades. But the most powerful woman in football doesn't let it affect her anymore. "Couldn't care less at this point," she tells this daily on the sidelines of the Norway Chess event last week.

EXPRESS CLUSIVE

Pimenta, who manages Erling Haaland among other star footballers, lifted the lid on what her working conditions were like before she worked up the ladder to carve out a commanding space for herself in an industry created by men for men. "It's really male dominated and it was even worse when I started," says the 53-year-old who was at the event as she had invested in their new product, Total Chess. The Brazilian lawyer-turned-manager — generally recognised as one of the first female 'super agents' in football — will have a number of clients at the World Cup, beginning in the US, Mexico and Canada from June 11, including Norway's Haaland.

Pimenta hopes for better working conditions for women in football. "What I hope is that it gets easier for all women. That women will not care for this abuse and that we can keep holding our positions we achieved and push forward."

Rafaela Pimenta | MICHAL WALUSZA / NORWAY CHESS

It's a powerful message to think about as the men's World Cup — the single most widely watched sporting event across the planet — is about to start in a few days' time. **P13**

What I hope is that it gets easier for all women and that's one of the reasons for me to be here.

Rafaela Pimenta, football agent

'A blessing'

Pimenta says that it is a blessing to work with Norwegian and Manchester City star Erling Haaland. "It's a blessing. He fits the way I think people should work."

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BENGALURU

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• Ritu: Greeshma • Masa: Adhika Jyeshta • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Ashtami 9.38 pm
• Nakshatra: Purvabhadra 4.44 am • Moon in Meena Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
• Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 21°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST
Showers late. Overcast

Sunrise 05.52 am
Sunset 06.44 pm
Moonrise 12.05 am
Moonset 12.14 pm

02 BENGALURU MONDAY 08.06.2026 newindianexpress.com

Adding floors will dilute norms, strain infra: Experts

State plans to increase the height of high-rises from 15m to 21m

AKNISREE KARTHIK
@ Bengaluru

WHILE the state government has proposed increasing the height of high-rise buildings from the existing 15 metres to 21 metres to promote vertical growth, experts caution that this requires scrutiny, given Bengaluru's strained civic infrastructure. They reminded the government of the recent fire tragedy in New Delhi which exposed weak enforcement of norms.

The government had issued a draft notification in this regard on June 4. Convener of Citizens' Agenda for Bengaluru Sandeep Anirudhan said the government has been repeatedly betraying Bengaluru. "It appears the Karnataka government has learned little from the recent Delhi fire tragedy, which has exposed the consequences of regulatory dilution and weak enforcement. Instead of strengthening compliance and ensuring accountability, the government is once again proposing amendments that benefit real estate interests and effectively regularise violations."

"Rather than enforcing planning norms in the larger public interest, the government seems to be weakening them. This creates a dangerous cycle: developers proceed on the expectation that any violations or deviations will eventually be legitimised through subsequent amendments. Such a regulatory culture encourages disregard for the law and undermines respect for planning institutions," he said.

Anirudhan said there is already widespread lawlessness in urban development in Bengaluru, with inadequate infrastructure, recurring flooding, traffic congestion, pressure on water resources and safety concerns. "At a time when stricter norms are required, the proposed amendment moves in the opposite direction by promoting greater density and reduced safeguards without corresponding investment in public infrastructure," he said.

He said policies that prioritise short-term commercial interests over public safety, environment and the city's carrying capacity will lead to deterioration in quality of life and expose Bengalureans to hazards.

"This proposed notification seeks to clarify key planning approval issues, particularly those involving A-Khata sites, family subdivision, amalgamation, setbacks, basement parking, FAR and high-rise buildings," said advocate Prashanth Mirle.

"The notification affects density, infrastructure load, road width, drain buffers, fire safety, redevelopment potential and neighbourhood planning. Proposals relating to high-rise buildings on roads of 12 metres and above, along with revised setback, basement parking and FAR norms, require careful scrutiny given Bengaluru's strained civic infrastructure," Mirle said.

The government has allowed 30 days for objections and suggestions, and both Anirudhan and Mirle insisted that citizens, resident welfare associations, architects, planners, developers and legal professionals must review the draft. "Such regulations must balance ease of approvals with safety, infrastructure capacity, environmental protection and neighbourhood impact," Mirle said.

Meanwhile, Chief Managing Director of Silverline Realty Farook Mahmood welcomed the relaxation in the height limit amid rising land costs and increasing housing demand. He said this move will enable more homes near the Metro corridor, leading to shorter commutes and less traffic pressure. "For the city, this means denser, walkable neighbourhoods along transit lines. For developers, this will facilitate viable projects, and for Bengaluru, better use of land and infrastructure. One rule change created space for growth, affordability and sustainability," he said.

VERTICAL GROWTH

One-time OC relaxation to get Bescom connection

Bengaluru: After the state government issued an order relaxing the occupancy certificate (OC) norms for buildings completed and had applied for the electricity connections on or before May 31, the chief general manager of Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company Limited (Bescom) has written to chief engineers and other officials concerned to strictly follow the order. The government on June 6 issued an order stating that residential buildings – ground+3 floors or stilt parking+4 floors – constructed on plots measuring up to 2,400 square feet with an additional permissible deviation of up to 20% – will no longer need to obtain OCs to get electricity connections. **ENS**

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar interacts with passengers on Namma Metro as he leaves for Kanakapura on Sunday | EXPRESS

Shivakumar takes Metro ride, interacts with commuters

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister DK Shivakumar travelled by Namma Metro on Sunday from Vidhana Soudha to Kanakapura Road while heading to his home constituency. He said he chose the Metro to avoid causing inconvenience to the public through traffic restrictions and zero-traffic arrangements.

During the journey, Shivakumar interacted with fellow passengers, shook hands with commuters and posed for selfies with young people who greeted him enthusiastically as "our CM".

At the Dr BR Ambedkar Vidhana Soudha Metro Station, he spent time browsing newspapers before engaging with passengers.

The CM spoke with students and commuters about their travel experiences. When he asked a young woman about Metro travel, she said that it helped save considerable time. Shivakumar also gave chocolates to a child and took selfies with the family members.

He also interacted with foreign tourists and encouraged students to make the most of available opportunities, noting that Karnataka was increasingly becoming India's face to the world.

Speaking to reporters, Shivakumar said he was visiting his constituency to express gratitude to the people who had supported him throughout his political journey. "The people of my constituency have brought me to the steps of Vidhana Soudha. It is my duty to thank them," he said.

> The people of my constituency have brought me to the steps of Vidhana Soudha. It is my duty to thank them
>
> DK Shivakumar, Chief Minister

Shivakumar also said that dedicated officials would be appointed to hear and address grievances of people in his constituency. He said residents had repeatedly sought an opportunity to meet him and that he was now making time to visit them directly.

On the recent hike in domestic LPG cylinder prices, Shivakumar said he had sought a separate report on the matter. He expressed greater concern over increases in industrial gas and diesel prices, stating that he would review the report and comment further on Monday.

EXPRESS READ

City University to release PhD entrance results on June 10

BENGALURU: Dr Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University (BCU) will announce the results of the PhD entrance examinations for the 2026–27 academic year, on Wednesday. "According to the revised schedule, interviews for candidates will be held from June 17 to June 19, and the merit list will be published on June 23," said Prof. Ramesh B Kudenatti, the registrar (evaluation) of the university.

BCCC Commissioner encourages adoption of indie dogs

BENGALURU: Promoting the adoption of Indian native dogs, biodiversity conservation and environmental protection, Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) organised an event at Lalbagh on Sunday. BCCC Commissioner Jagadeesha G appealed to the public to adopt and raise Indian native dogs. He also joined children in preparing seed balls and encouraged the public to grow more plants through seed ball initiatives this monsoon. Children who participated received appreciation and certificates for painting and raising awareness about the adoption of street dogs. He requested everyone to provide drinking water to animals and birds under the 'Water for Voiceless' initiative. **ENS**

BCCC Commissioner Jagadeesha G joins children in making seed balls

Barriers fail to stop plastic flood into lake

MOHAMMED YACOOB
@Bengaluru

LAKE activists are unhappy with Bengaluru East City Corporation's work of installing trash barriers at inlets to prevent garbage from entering Seegehalli Lake. Despite these barriers, garbage and floating materials like plastic have made their way into the water body in the last month because of heavy rain.

"The idea was to contain garbage and floating materials entering the lake. But with just a few spells of rain, the entire water body is filled with garbage. We doubt whether proper barriers have been installed," said Balaji Ragotham, a lake activist.

Bhupradha, Executive Engineer, Lakes, Bengaluru East City Corporation (BECC), said plastic dumped upstream areas has entered the drain network and flooded the lake. As trash barriers installed are of minimum capacity, the contractor has been asked to upgrade them to higher capacity ones. "Each rain, we get at least 15 tractor loads of plastic from Seegehalli lake," he said.

He pointed out that the only way to avoid waste and garbage from flooding the lakes is to make solid waste management effective or implement the ban on single-use plastic strictly.

"Heavy rain in the Hebbal-Nagavara Valley is enough to raise the water level of Seegehalli, which is at its bottom now. From here, water enters the major drain network and enters the 500-acre Yele Mallappa Shetty Lake," he said. Not just now, every time it rains heavily, water from upper stream areas enters the drain network and floods water bodies, leading to pollution, he added.

Residents, walkers and activists also urged Greater Bengaluru Authority officials to take up the matter up with the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Ltd (BSWML) to ensure plastic menace is fixed across the city, as in the coming days, more rains are expected. "If the waste issue is not addressed and officials fail to maintain the lake with frequent visits and water quality checks, the water body will be under threat," said Balaji.

MARSHALS ASKED TO FINE LITTERING PUBLIC

BSWML Chief Executive Officer Karee Gowda, admitting the plastic and garbage littering menace, said marshals have been given standing instructions to impose penalties and also seize shops. "We are going full throttle against single-use plastic. Manufacturers and shops will be imposed heavy penalties, and their licenses will be cancelled," he warned.

Pollution fear, as contamination kills hundreds of fish at Sunkalpalya Lake

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

HUNDREDS of fish deaths have been reported from Sunkalpalya Lake under Bengaluru West City Corporation (BWCC) over the past three weeks due to suspected water contamination and a decrease in Dissolved Oxygen levels.

A resident and a walker who noticed dead fish floating and a few gasping for breath say the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) officials, when contacted, were just passing the buck.

"I tried to contact officials, but they just gave numbers of other officials and asked me to raise the issue. This is passing the buck, while leaving the actual issue unaddressed," Dipu Nair, a resident of Sunkalpalya, said.

Nair said the matter was also raised with a senior official of the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA), but did not receive any reply and later realised that the custody of the water body has been transferred from BDA to GBA. "The officials have deployed a few workers who come with gunny bags and plastic sacks to collect and dispose of the dead fish. This has been happening for the last few days. It appears to be a cover-up act. If dead fish are not removed, the stench would have become unbearable, and the issue would have become big," he said.

Executive Engineer (Lakes), BWCC, Geetha, said the layouts near BGS Hospital Side need to be connected with sewage lines and the Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has also informed that a diversion channel will be installed to prevent sewage inflow into the 15.4-acre tank. "We have raised the matter with BWSSB and asked them to take steps to ensure the water body is not polluted with sewage. They too have assured that civic works will be taken up," said Geetha.

A senior official also expressed concern over the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), an autonomous body that can address the issue by issuing notices and pulling up the BWSSB, for letting their sewage flow into the lake. "If KSPCB pulls up the water board, then the works would gain pace and lake pollution can be fixed," said the official.

Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHIS

08th June : Terms of Agreement In the modern world, people agree to terms sight unseen on a daily basis. And though this may be unwise, it could be even more detrimental to carry that practice out of the digital realm. Be more vigilant as Mercury moves into a square with Saturn, the sign of lessons. To avoid future regret, don't hurry past the terms of agreement. No blind clicks.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The fast way to get to know someone is to be in a totally new situation with them. It creates a shared sense of discovery. Away from routine, people reveal different sides of themselves, form vivid memories and develop trust through experience.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20)
You've already analyzed the situation enough. Continued thinking will have diminishing returns. Success depends less on whether you act and more on how you enter the situation. What's the thing people want here? Can you position yourself to be that?

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)
Some are fluent with ideas but disconnected from emotional realities. Others understand feelings deeply yet struggle with structure. Today features rare and lovely interactions combining emotional awareness with accountability, honesty, boundaries, humor and practical problem-solving.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
You appreciate fairness and good business not despite life's inequities but because of them. You have some very creative ideas about how to even the score, shore up inequities and make up for disproportionate sorrows.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
Ask any jury: passing judgment can be exhausting work. Spare yourself the drain by directing your attention toward people you genuinely enjoy, admire and understand. Delight tends to produce far better company than criticism does.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
You're always learning more about how to communicate with people because communication is always evolving. People's needs, moods and goals change. Your capabilities change. Language itself changes. You adapt like a pro.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
Politeness is a foundation of a decent society. Today there's a shared decorum that keeps people cooperating. While good manners alone can't solve every problem, they create conditions where people can solve them together.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)
Shared human experiences are powerful all by themselves. There doesn't have to be anything planned or structured or fancy about team building. Just doing something together will be enough to improve vibes and heal rifts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
As you respond predictably, you'll earn someone's trust. If you respond unpredictably, you'll earn other things, which may include alertness, excitement, fear or wonder. You want them to be comfortable, but you should not let them get too comfortable.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
In today's relationship landscape, what's broken can be fixed. Even so, avoid approaching the issue with a line like, "Can I talk to you?" which only puts others on the defensive. The fix starts in your heart and your imagination.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
Your experiences have taught you patterns that no book could fully explain. After enough disappointment, tenderness, conflict and repair, you recognize emotional dynamics and respond to challenging exchanges with skill, diplomacy and self-respect.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)
Someone prosperous is looking for someone with whom to share their good fortune. You'll stand out as a solid prospect, not because you are needy but because you appreciate with enthusiasm and do not take life's gifts for granted.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

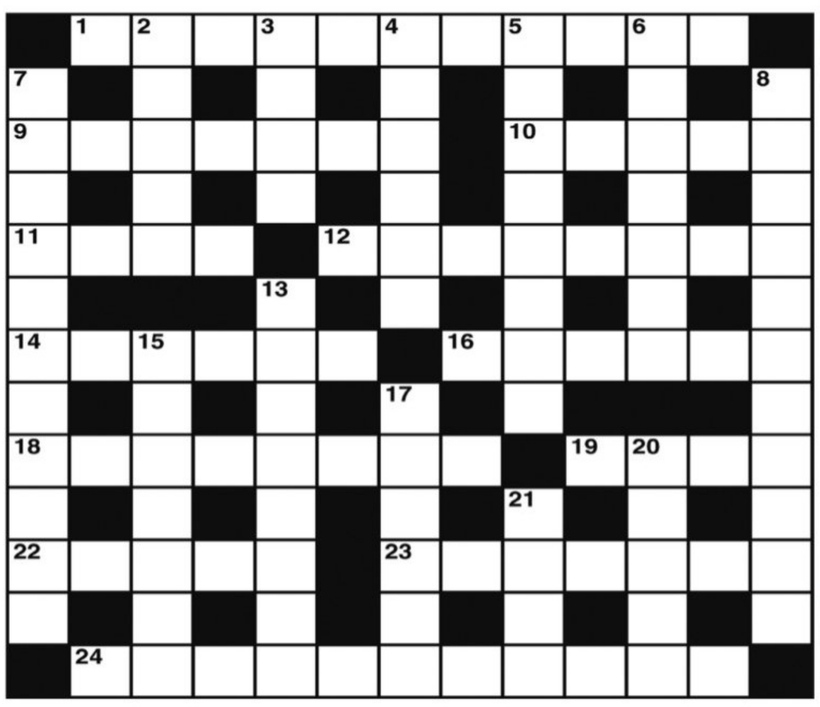
7			9		1	5		
3			7	8	6			
	1	8		5	3			
8	3	4	6	1				5
1				2	4	3	9	6
			4	9		7	6	
			1	6	8			9
		9	3		2			1

8	4	7	1	6	3	9	5	2
2	9	1	7	5	4	6	3	8
3	6	5	2	9	8	1	4	7
5	1	2	8	7	6	3	9	4
4	8	3	9	1	2	7	6	5
6	7	9	4	3	5	8	2	1
1	3	6	5	2	7	4	8	9
9	5	8	3	4	1	2	7	6
7	2	4	6	8	9	5	1	3

SUDOKU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Lay out cash with financial caution? Not he! (11)
9 Support the conclusion on alternative points (7)
10 Leading brief (5)
11 We object to edition being second-hand (4)
12 Casting is one of his jobs in the studio (8)
14 Struggle for doctor getting into his overall (6)
16 Animal hunt (6)
18 Got there quite dishevelled but all in one piece (8)
19 Give terrible review to a great hit (4)
22 Subject - The Middle East (5)
23 No longer clear? Try and make it so (7)
24 Too thoughtful to create wanton desecration (11)

DOWN
2 Minister of the armed forces (5)
3 He ruled in pre-Antonine Rome (4)
4 Hole at the front (6)
5 Drove off disgusted (8)
6 Squander food? (7)
7 A cruel set is about to make a comeback (11)
8 Being now engaged in arranging a better month (11)
13 Craftily trap hens for display in zoos perhaps (8)
15 New game not of interest to motorists (7)
17 Guard is fed up to death (6)
20 Jumped and broke a plate (5)
21 Fight blows up (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Endive, 4 After all, 9 In town, 10 Tear duct, 12 Tend, 13 Track, 14 Heel, 17 On the warpath, 20 Goes a long way, 23 Idle, 24 Chess, 25 Stet, 28 Ringbolt, 29 Belong, 30 Cast down, 31 Creels.

Down: 1 Eviction, 2 Detonate, 3 Vows, 5 French polish, 6 Earn, 7 Acumen, 8 Little, 11 Breaks the law, 15 Set on, 16 Stone, 18 Two to one, 19 By stages, 21 Citric, 22 Planks, 26 Abed, 27 Hear.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

OTTOH
WCNLO
NKISYN
OKCDEL

It would be like cremation.
Staying here and decaying sounds better.
4/13
WHEN ASKED IF IT EVER WANTED TO END UP IN A FIREPLACE, THE OAK TREE SAID ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Facebook

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ( ) " ( ) ( ) ( ) " ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: VIVID PHONE NARROW BEHIND
Answer: The company was growing quickly, so the number of employees needed to go — "HIRE" AND "HIRE"

Police arrested three persons in two separate chain snatching cases and recovered a total of 85 grams of gold jewellery, worth over Rs 11 lakh. Pramod and Manohar from Chandra Layout were held for snatching 45.8 gram gold chain from a resident of Balaji Layout. Aslam Pasha from V Nagenahalli Main Road was held for barging into a house, assaulting a woman, and escaping with her gold chain and mobile phone in Hebbal

BOGUS RECRUITMENT

Dad-daughter duo cheats job seekers of over ₹5.3 cr

RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

CENTRAL Crime Branch (CCB) sleuths arrested a father-daughter duo for allegedly cheating job aspirants of over Rs 5.3 crore by falsely promising them jobs in various Central and State government departments. The accused had allegedly set up fake training centres and even paid four months' salary to a few aspirants to gain their trust.

The accused are Shamshad Begum MM, an MBA graduate, and her father, MA Mansoor Ahmed. The police said that on November 17, 2025, Sangamesh Rachayya Vastrad filed a complaint with the CCB, alleging that the father-daughter duo approached him claiming to have close contacts with senior government officials and political leaders.

They assured unemployed and educated youth that they could secure government jobs for these youth through their influence. But they left youngsters stranded after collecting money. They allegedly cheated over 40 job aspirants from North Karnataka of Rs 5.3 crore. They had promised appointments in various departments, including the Railways, Income Tax, Irrigation, Health, and Social Welfare.

After the complaint, the Organised Crime Wing (East) of the CCB launched an investigation, and verified documents and examined financial transactions that were allegedly made between 2023 and 2025. Most of the transactions were online.

The complainant from Vijayapura alone was allegedly cheated of over Rs 2.5 crore. He had collected money from his relatives and also close associates to secure jobs for people known to him. The probe revealed that the accused allegedly issued fake appointment letters and set up bogus training centres in Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Kolkata to make the fraud appear genuine. They reportedly paid four months' salary to some victims to attract more candidates. They allegedly collected Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh from each individual.

Mansoor Ahmed

Shamshad Begum

They had promised 40 job aspirants from North Karnataka appointments in various departments, including the Railways, Income Tax, Irrigation, Health, and Social Welfare

CCB investigation

A police officer said that following the investigation, the duo was arrested on June 4 and taken into police custody for further questioning. The police are also ascertaining the roles of other family members and associates who may be involved in the fraud. The investigation is continuing to trace and recover the money that was extorted.

Fake marks cards racket busted

The CCB police arrested the owner of Digital Distance Education Mission (DDEM) and others for allegedly issuing forged marks cards to students who had failed their SSLC and PUC examinations and collecting money under the guise of securing admissions and degree qualifications. According to a complaint filed on Friday, the accused, Rajareddy, who owns DDEM in Koramangala, obtained the mobile numbers of students and contacted them through employees of his institution with promises of securing admissions in various colleges. The students were allegedly lured with assurances that they could directly appear for degree examinations without completing SSLC, PUC, or other mandatory academic qualifications. The accused reportedly charged students between Rs 30,000 and Rs 50,000 for the service. The probe revealed that Rajareddy, in collusion with Aryan and others, fabricated fake marks cards and sent them to students through courier services. More than 50 fake marks cards were allegedly created and distributed during the 2025-26 academic year to those who had not pursued these courses. The accused allegedly engaged in the racket to make illegal gains, causing injustice to genuine students. The police said that the racket was busted, the accused were arrested and are being questioned. **ENS**

RUBBLE HAZARD

Debris of the compound wall of Cantonment Railway Station is left on the footpath of Station Road in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

36-yr-old rowdy-sheeter chased, hacked to death

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 36-year-old rowdy-sheeter was brutally hacked to death by a group of assailants who chased and attacked him with weapons near his residence in Janata Colony, Sulibele, in Hoskote taluk on Saturday night. The police have launched a manhunt to trace the accused.

The deceased , Khaleem Ulla Khan (36), a resident of Janata Colony, was a rowdy-sheeter at the Sulibele police station. He was engaged in the fruit trade.

Police said, the incident occurred at 11.30 pm, about 600 metres from Khan's house. After finishing dinner, he stepped out of the house. The assailants waiting nearby intercepted him and attacked with machetes and other weapons.

Khan attempted to escape, but the accused chased him and repeatedly assaulted him. He sustained more than 20 injuries and died on the spot. The assailants fled the scene after committing the crime.

The body has been sent for post-mortem examination. A case of murder was registered at the Sulibele police station.

Preliminary investigations suggest that three to five persons were involved in the attack. The police suspect that the murder was the result of an old rivalry. The suspected accused have been identified, and efforts are under way to apprehend them.

State to recruit 3,395 cops; e-applications open today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

HOME Minister Priyank Kharge on Sunday said the police department will fill 3,395 vacant posts of civil police constable through direct recruitment across various districts, cities and police units in the state. The online application process will begin on Monday and the last date for submission is July 3.

The recruitment examination will be conducted by the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) in offline Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) mode. Candidates must submit their applications only through the official KEA website.

Priyank said that of the total vacancies, 2,266 posts are reserved for male candidates, 755 for female candidates, 257 for in-service male personnel, 82 for in-service female personnel, and 35 for transgender candidates.

Selected candidates will receive a salary in the range of Rs 37,500 to Rs 76,100 and will be covered under the National Pension System (NPS). Candidates must have passed PUC or an equivalent qualification, including CBSE, the Indian School Certificate, the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) or a three-year diploma recognised under government norms. Applicants must be at least 18 years old.

The age limit for various categories are as follows (in years). General Merit (GM) - (33). SC, ST, Category-1,2A,2B,3A,3B - (35). Budakattu (ST from Forest area) - (38). Ex-serviceman (GM) - (38). Ex-serviceman (Reserved) - (40).

The minister said the state government has granted a one-time relaxation of five years in the upper age limit. He added that candidates must submit their applications only through the official KEA website: https://cetonline.karnataka.gov.in/kea. For further information and technical assistance, candidates may contact the KEA Information Centre at 080-23460460 or visit the official X account, @KEA_karnataka.

KARNATAKA TO GET ANTI-ROWDY SQUADS

BENGALURU: Following instructions from Chief Minister DK Shivakumar to intensify action against anti-social activities, DG & IGP MA Saleem has directed that dedicated Anti-Rowdy Squads be formed at both police circle and police station levels across the state. Every police circle will have a rowdy squad functioning under the supervision of the circle inspector, while police stations headed by police inspectors will constitute separate station-level squads. The squad composition will be decided by the concerned sub-divisional police officer or assistant commissioner of police based on local crime conditions. The squads are tasked with identifying and monitoring rowdy-sheeters, verifying criminal cases, gathering actionable intelligence on criminal gangs and conducting regular surveillance. The circular mandates maintaining updated records of sheeters and submitting monthly reports. Compliance reports on formation of the squads must be submitted within seven days. **ENS**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No:605/EEE/AEE(O)/PD/HBL/2026-27/880-82 Date:04.06.2026

NOTIFICATION

KPTCL has formulated scheme under Electricity Act-2003 and the scheme is here by published. This notification is issued for the information of the concerned persons and general public.

Particular of the scheme is as under:

1)Name of the work: Establishing 220 kV Digital Switching station with double bus bar arrangement at Giriyal (Hirehonnalli) in Kalaghatagi Taluk, Dharwad District with following associates line & Construction of 220KV line-in from Nagazari-SRS Hubballi 1, 2 & 3 line & Nagazari-Bidnal SC line to 220KV Digital switching station at Giriyal (Hirehonnalli) using High Performance Conductor (HPC) for a distance of 4.093 Kms. in Kalaghatagi Taluk, Dharwad District & Construction of 220KV line-out from 220KV Digital switching station at Giriyal (Hirehonnalli) to 220KV Nagazari-SRS Hubli 1, 2 & 3 line & Nagazari-Bidnal SC line using High performance conductor (HPC for a distance of 4.1 Kms in Kalaghatagi Taluk, Dharwad District & Construction of 220KV LILO line from SRS Hubballi - Sirsi DC line (double circuits) to 220KV Digital switching station at Giriyal (Hirehonnalli) using High performance conductor (HPC) for a distance of 12.173 Kms in Kalaghatagi Taluk, Dharwad District & Construction of 220KV LILO line from Narendra-Haveri (Shiggaon) SC line and Narendra-Bidnal SC line to proposed 220KV Digital switching station at Giriyal (Hirehonnalli) using High performance conductor (HPC) for a distance of 4.819 Kms in Kalaghatagi Taluk, Dharwad District Testing and Commissioning.

2. Cost of the project: Rs. 19869.98 Lakhs.

3. The details of Transmission line passes through the area/ villages and land survey No's are as follows:

Villages: 1.Ugginakeri: 133,134,135,141,140,139,138, 162,150,161,153,151,152,137,129 **2.Hirehonnalli**: 138,123,127,128,110,130,129,102,109,107,108,106,87,91, 90,92,76,43 44,49,36,35,22,27,483,30,31,55,54,57, 59,60,61,64,63,62,67,69,70,98,154,153, 159,157,158, 161,480,100,97,96,95,93,76,75,74,45,48,50,34, 33,26, 28, 29,32, 479,478,481,482, 25,24,23 **3. Kamadhenu:** 49,48,35,34,36 ,30,31,29,28,27,14,26,25,15,24,21, 22,177,176,179,178 **4.Kuruvinakoppa:** 106,105,101, 78,114,102. **5. B.Gudihal:** 50,49,51,41,42,37,38,36,35, 34,33,56,57,61,62,71,73,78,79,75,76,77,69,72,48. **6. Kadanakoppa:** 72,73,75,76,77,78 **7.Kurdikeri:** 108,107,105,104, 106,135,138,126,125,124,127,119, 120,118,117,116,143,144,145,150,151,201,237/B/2,201/F, 201H, 201D, 201K, 201B, 201A, 202 **8.Bogenarakoppa:** 33. **9. Mishrikoti:** 180,179,189,188,187,186,192

The said transmission line passes through above mentioned villages of land survey No's and neighbouring villages of land survey No's.

4. Need for sub-station and line: To provide quality of power supply, voltage improvement and to meet future load growth at Ugginakeri, Hirehonnalli, Kamadhenu, Kuruvinakoppa, B.Gudihal, Kadanakoppa, Kurdikeri, Bogenarakoppa, Mishrikoti in and around surrounding Villages.

KPTCL shall have and excersise all powers which the telegraphic authority's posses under part III of the teleghaphic act 1885 for implementation of the above said schemes. Objections if any regarding the project shall be sent to the under signed within 15 days from the date of publication of this notification.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele.),
Project Division, KPTCL, Hubballi.

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700091
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web: www.wbsetcl.in

WBSETCL

E-TENDER FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKS ARE INVITED:-

NIT No.: CE(P)/ WBSETCL/132kV_ 1250A_Isolator/26-27/04 Date: 08.06.2026	Procurement of 132 kV, 1250A Isolators. Bid documents can be downloaded from **08.06.2026, 11:00 A.M.** and bids shall be submitted (online) up to **04:00 P.M., 06.07.2026.**
NIT No.: CE(P)/ WBSETCL/132kV_ 200A_Isolator/26-27/05 Date: 08.06.2026	Procurement of 132 kV, 2000A Isolators. Bid documents can be downloaded from **08.06.2026, 11:00 A.M.** and bids shall be submitted (online) up to **04:00 P.M., 06.07.2026.**

Visit the following websites - www.wbtenders.gov.in, www.wbsetcl.in for details.

ICA- P-9493(31)/2026

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Union Bank of India

UNION BANK OF INDIA
(AGovernment of India Undertaking)
RAJARAJESHWARI NAGAR BRANCH
Address: No 457/C Idea Home Township, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore-560098, Phone: 9988506446
E mail : ubin0907138@unionbankofindia.bank

E- AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for 15 days Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Union Bank of India** (secured Creditor) will be sold on **"As is where", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on the dates mentioned below for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to **Union Bank of India** from the below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s)
The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits are also mentioned hereunder.

1. Name and Address of the Borrower & Co Borrower & Guarantor:
1.Mrs Sarasvathi Raghavendra Wife of Late Raghavendra G S, No 64, Plot No 101,Flat No 101, 1st Floor, SLV Sarvara Apartment, Madhumitra Layout, Jigani Village(CT), Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560105
2. Mrs Padmavathi (Mother of Raghavendra G S) and all other Legal heirs R/o No 26C, Kodi Hosur, Channagiri Road, Hosur Kannapur, Arakere, Bhadravati, Shivamogga, Karnataka 577301
Amount Due :Rs.28,05,561.28 (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Five Thousand Five Hundred Sixty One and Paise Twenty Eight only) As on 06.06.2026 with further interest, cost and expenses.
Description of Property: SCHEDULE A PROPERTY: Property Site No 63 & 64, Katha No 6375/660/63 and 6376/660/64 formed in (Sy no 285/2) in the layout known as "Madhumitr Phase 2" in the land bearing Sy No 285/1, 285/2,286,288/1,288/2,288/3,297,298/1,298/2,299,306/3A and 306/3B in all measuring 7 acres 34 guntas situated at Jigani Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560105, Measuring East to West 80 feet and North 50 feet and South 54.6 feet in all 4172 sq feet and bounded on East by: Land in Sy no 285/3, West by: 40 feet road, North by:CA Land,South by: Site no 65
SCHEDULE B PROPERTY : Residential Flat, bearing, Flat No 101 in the 1 st floor of the apartment building known as "SLV Sarovara" having a super built up area of 675 sq ft containing Double Bed Room together with one open car parking space. Together with 175 UDS in Schedule A Property and bounded on, East by : Open to Sky, West by: Flat No 105, Classification: Public, Classification: Internal,North by: Open to Sky, South by: Corridor

Reserve Price:Rs.18,85,000/-
(Rupees Eighteen Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Only)
EMD: Rs.1,88,500/-
(Rupees One Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Only)

For Auction related queries contact Union Bank of India,
Rajarajeshwari Nagar Branch, Contact No: 9988506446

Date and Time of E-auction 24.06.2026 (11.00 a.m. to 5:00 P.M.)
(with 10 min unlimited auto extensions)
Last Date for Submission of EMD : On or before commencement of e-auction
E-auction website- https://baanknet.com

For Detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://baanknet.com and http://www.unionbankof india.co.in
The online E- auction will be held through website:https://baanknet.com

Date: 06.06.2026
Place: Bangalore

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India

Lost Money in a Financial Fraud?
Investments lost in fraudulent schemes?
I lost money to a fraudster online!
A company offered me high returns and is now untraceable!
सचेत
An SLCC initiative
Lodge your complaint on SACHET PORTAL
• Provides information and guidance for filing complaints related to financial irregularities.
• Complaints lodged on Sachet Portal are redirected to the concerned authorities to initiate necessary actions.
• User can track their complaints on the Portal.
File your complaints on https://sachet.rbi.org.in
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Your Guide to Spicy Living INDULGE Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said he has sought a report on the increase in the price of domestic gas cylinders. "More than this, the Union government has raised prices of industrial gas and diesel at an alarming rate. I am obtaining a report. I will speak about this on Monday," he said

CONG KICKSTARTS '28 CAMPAIGN, BJP & JDS MAY HAVE TO REWIRE

The Congress leadership and government change has thrown up an interesting new reality for the prospects of the three parties

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

LAST week, Karnataka's political landscape underwent a paradigm shift with the smooth transition of power from AHINDA champion Siddaramaiah to Vokkaliga leader DK Shivakumar; AHINDA is Kannada acronym for minorities, backward classes and Dalits.

The ruling Congress heaved a sigh of relief as confusion over change in leadership, which had lingered for a year, cleared and the new government hit the ground running, eager to overcome anti-incumbency against the previous regime led by Siddaramaiah. The change has redrawn caste equations, forcing the opposition BJP-JDS alliance to go back to the drawing board and rework their strategy for the 2028 assembly polls.

On the organisational front, the Congress has brought in senior leader BK Hariprasad as part of its backward classes outreach, to compensate for the exit of Siddaramaiah.

Vokkaliga-AHINDA combo

Ahead of the 2028 elections, the Congress appears to have resorted to a conservative gameplan of shoring up its AHINDA votebank along with Vokkaliga support, and is expecting a considerable shift of the community vote in its favour with young and dynamic leader DK Shivakumar at the helm. Having Shivakumar, a man known for mobilising resources, as the engine will reduce KPCC president BK Hariprasad's burden to a large extent.

Shivakumar has proved that he can connect with traditional voters -- in the 2023 assembly polls the party won a considerable number of seats in Old Mysuru region -- and the young, who look on him as an aspirational leader with another decade of active politics left in him. Shivakumar has a little less than two years in office, which is not a short time for him to calibrate his style of administration. In his outreach to youngsters of all communities, he has announced free bus passes to students.

The CM is looking to organise the youth, having announced the establishment of 10,000 Bharat Jodo Youth Clubs (Yuvaka Sanghas) and provide Rs 10 lakh to each village panchayat and urban ward. Both these initiatives will help the Congress catch the young and inculcate the party ideology in them. The soft Hindutva approach that Shivakumar has adopted is likely to diffuse the contentious issue of minority appeasement associated with the Congress, leaving the BJP with no scope to go aggressive on it.

BIG PICTURE

A different challenge could come from BK Hariprasad, who is vocal in expressing anti-RSS sentiments. This could give the BJP the chance to corner the Congress on Hindutva issues. Hariprasad had stated that more than power, pursuing the Congress ideology is important for him. Home Minister Priyank Kharge's forthright approach may also trigger controversies, claim political analysts.

Shivakumar's gameplan is to ensure that the Hindu votebank is not polarised in the BJP's favour. His approach seems inclusive and this was evident by the scores of Hindu religious heads at his swearing-in ceremony.

BJP may look towards AHINDA

The saffron party is highly dependent on Veerashaiva Lingayat votes, with community strongman and former CM BS Yediyurappa's son BY Vijayendra as state unit president. With AHINDA leader Siddaramaiah no longer the CM, the BJP is likely to put its fingers into the Congress' basket. Hariprasad, who hails from the backward Idiga community, is no match for Siddaramaiah.

The BJP has an advantage in North Karnataka but it cannot take backward classes and Dalit votes for granted as the Congress high command could still make use of Siddaramaiah during elections. The party does not have a strong backward classes leader as a counter, having dismissed former minister KS Eshwarappa from the party a couple of years ago, and will now have to scout for a suitable leader. The party, which had hoped the JDS would bring in Vokkaliga votes in good proportion, is having second thoughts after the elevation of DK Shivakumar as CM. Whether Opposition leader in the Assembly R Ashoka can retain the Vokkaliga vote remains the big question.

Senior leader and party spokesperson Ashwathnarayan Gowda is of the opinion that Shivakumar does not have hold sway over Vokkaliga voters. "Shivakumar is not a mass leader and he will emerge big only if he clinches power for the Congress in the 2028 assembly polls," he said.

He claimed that the failure of the government, including Shivakumar as Bengaluru Development Minister, will backfire on the Congress and this will be evident in the forthcoming Greater Bengaluru Authority polls. Residents of Bengaluru are left in the lurch over regularisation of properties, and conversion of B-Khata to A-Khata, he said.

The BJP's biggest challenge is to resolve alleged internal bickering, put an end to factionalism and set a narrative against the ruling Congress in Karnataka by taking up the issues of the public. Vijayendra has to take along seniors in the party who have been sulking over his leadership.

JDS U-turn on secularism?

To counter DK Shivakumar's soft Hindutva and Vokkaliga appeal, the JDS may be forced to get back some semblance of its earlier secular image. If at all, Shivakumar's elevation could have a direct impact on the JDS, though former PM HD Deve Gowda remains an undisputed Vokkaliga leader. The stalwart has considerable hold over the community, but since age is not on his side he cannot campaign as aggressively as he used to.

Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy, who is the JDS' chief ministerial face, could ensure that the party retains its Vokkaliga votebank, but the community may start comparing him with DK Shivakumar, who will also be in the 2028 poll race. If the JDS continues its alliance with the BJP, it may have to depend on the saffron party for transfer of votes in its favour in the Old Mysuru belt, while its bargaining power over seat-sharing could drop. The JDS is also mulling projecting youth wing chief Nikhil Kumaraswamy as a youth icon, though he has been an electoral failure, on the lines of Tamil Nadu CM and TVK chief Joseph Vijay, according to sources.

"Despite having a clean image, former CM late SM Krishna could not emerge as a mass leader. Shivakumar, who is known for not favouring farmers, cannot be a real Vokkaliga community leader. There were umpteen examples, including the Bidadi township project," alleged JDS spokesperson Gangadhara Murthy. "I cannot deny he will try to attract our votes, but we will compensate for the loss. If 5 per cent of our votes shift to the Congress, 25 per cent of AHINDA votes will come to us as Siddaramaiah has been removed without reason," he claimed.

He clarified that the JDS, albeit an NDA partner, has never gone against the Muslim community, or instigated any communal clashes. After the Davanagere South bypoll controversy which led to Muslim leaders being sidelined, the community is looking at an alternative political force to identify with, as the Congress has taken their votes for granted, he commented.

"It has been proven that the combination of the largest communities, Veerashaiva Lingayats and Vokkaligas, has worked tremendously for political parties. Besides, the breakup of AHINDA votes is an added advantage for the BJP-JDS alliance," he said.

Political scientist Dr Sandeep Shastri said the appointment of DK Shivakumar as Chief Minister will directly impact the JDS. "This leadership change provides the Congress with the potential to swing Vokkaliga support in its favour. In recent elections, the Vokkaliga vote underwent a three-way split, with the Congress performing reasonably well," he remarked.

He was skeptical whether the BJP and JDS will maintain their alliance for the 2028 assembly elections. "While their alliance functions for Lok Sabha elections, the JDS will have much higher expectations on seat-sharing in the assembly elections. It remains uncertain if the BJP concedes to these expectations, leaving a big question mark on vote transfers in Old Mysuru region," Shastri said.

"No doubt Siddaramaiah will play his role in state politics as he has decided not to switch to national politics. He will be an important force in state politics. Congress' dependence on the OBC vote will largely depend on how much he is able to bring to the party table," he remarked.

Omission of his photo in ads, DCM to talk to CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Tumakuru

DEPUTY Chief Minister Dr G Parameshwara here on Sunday said he will take up the issue of his picture being omitted from official government advertisements that appeared for a couple of days in newspapers with Chief Minister DK Shivakumar. "If it has occurred at the level of officials, we will correct it. Right now, doing the government's work is more important to us than to worry about a photo," he told reporters.

"No, I haven't seen or noticed it. Once I return to Bengaluru, I will discuss it with the chief minister. If the Information Department has omitted it, I will speak to them as well. I don't know the purpose or reason behind this omission. We will rectify it," he replied at a press conference at the deputy comissioner's office.

JDS and certain Dalit organisations raised the issue as his photo did not feature in the advertisements released by the backward classes department on the occasion of former CM late D Devaraj Urs' birth anniversary on Saturday, while the chief minsiter's CM's picture was there prominently.

Cong govt doing good job: BJP MLA

Earlier, Parameshwara distributed title deeds to 209 families of the nomadic community at a function held near the Ambedkar statue at the townhall. He promised that steps will be taken to build houses for them through the Rajiv Gandhi Housing Scheme in the coming days.

Commending on the government's initiative, Tumakuru Rural BJP MLA Suresh Gowda said the Congress government has done good public work, saying the development work undertaken in Tumakuru district is commendable. He expected Dr G Parameshwara to leave his footprint by implementing more projects.

BJP MLAs B Suresh Gowda and G B Jyothiganesh greet DCM Dr G Parameshwara in Tumakuru on Sunday

HEARING THEM OUT

JDS supremo and former PM H D Deve Gowda interacts with farmers at the Mango and Jackfruit Fair at Lalbagh in Bengaluru on Sunday. Farmers raised concerns over marketing challenges and prices for their produce | EXPRESS

Lingayat group to block entry of Kanneri Swami into Basavakalyan for June 28 convention

Bengaluru: Progressive Lingayat and Basavanna groups have decided to block the controversial Kaneri swami Adrushya Kadsiddheshwar Swamiji from entering Basavakalyan in Bidar district for a convention on June 28. The groups contended that the convention under the leadership of Kaneri swami is "deceptive and anti-Lingayat" and so they are opposing it. The decision was taken at a meeting of Basava groups and Lingayat organisations, organised by the Global Lingayat Mahasabha, at Basavakalyan on Sunday evening. They alleged that the proposed convention would be conducted in the name of Basava and the Sharanas, but would spread deceptions about Basava philosophy and the teachings of 12th-century social reformers.

Man held for offensive remark against Priyank Kharge

Udupi: The Karkala police have arrested a 48-year-old man for allegedly posting casteist comments on social media against Home Minister Priyank Kharge. Accused **Sudheer Bangera**, a resident of Kervashe Nalkedabettu in Karkala, had posted the objectional comments on the 'Namma Karla' Facebook page on Saturday. According to the Karkala police, based on a complaint filed by one Suresha Chetanahalli, a case was registered against the accused. A post was uploaded with a photograph of the home minister with a caption that read: "Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) will not breathe of communalism for the next two years as there is no home minister with a calm temperament (sic)". The complainant alleged that reacting to the post, the accused made an offensive comment against Priyank, who is Dalit. The complainant also alleged that the accused was attempting to disrupt peace in society by hurling casteist slurs and issuing death threats against the minister. Bangera was produced before the court later. **ENS**

DKS seeks people's support to return as CM in 2028

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

ON his maiden visit to Kanakapura Assembly constituency after becoming chief minister, DK Shivakumar on Sunday expressed hope of returning as CM in 2028 and sought the continued support of people.

During a day-long roadshow across his constituency, Shivakumar said only two years are left in his tenure and he has to travel across Karnataka and work for the entire state. He urged people to give him the freedom and support needed to govern effectively and return to Kanakapura in 2028 as chief minister again.

When he asked the gathering if they want to see him as CM only for two years, they collectively said no. Shivakumar said he shall keep track of the work to be done in Kanakapura. "Wherever you go, people will now say you are from CM's constituency. Earlier, Ramakrishna Hegde had contested from here. My political career started from here. It's you who made me CM," he said, seeking their blessings.

He also urged JDS workers to reach him. "DK Shivakumar is here. The doors of my house are open to you as well. You can approach me and seek help whenever needed. God does not give blessings or curses. He only gives opportunities. We must make use of those opportunities. Earlier, we supported Anita Kumaraswamy and H D Kumaraswamy because we wanted to keep the BJP away from power. I do not wish to discuss the past now," he said.

On former CM Siddaramaiah, Shivakumar said they both will lead the party to victory in 2028 again and form the government. "You (people) prayed for me during my difficult times, made vows, fought for me and even faced legal cases. Your efforts have now borne fruit. Though it took two extra days, Siddaramaiah has acted according to his word. I must work in accordance with the party's guidance," he said.

Referring to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, he urged people to remain vigilant.

"Do not assume your name is already on the voter list and remain complacent. You must submit applications again. If you fail to do so, you may lose your vote and even access to government welfare schemes. You may not receive benefits such as under Gruha Lakshmi or Gruha Jyothi. Ensure that your vote remains in the Kanakapura constituency," he said.

The CM announced five key commitments for Kanakapura, including a medical college, housing for the poor, jobs for locals, KPS schools and a dedicated officer to address public grievances.

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar takes out a roadshow during his visit to his constituency Kanakapura on Sunday

Special officers

CM said he will appoint special officers to listen to the problems and grievances of people of his constituency. "The people of my constituency have political understanding and awareness. Even though they expect nothing from me, it is my duty to serve them," he told reporters. "I must express my gratitude to my people. Their hard work must be rewarded fittingly. The people of Sathanur constituency, Doddaalahalli zilla panchayat and Kanakapura want to meet me. I have not been able to give them time. I had appealed to everyone not to come to Bengaluru. That is why I am visiting the constituency now," he said.

Post Siddu era, Kurubas seek stronger political share

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

THE recent power transition in the Karnataka government has ignited a debate within the influential Kuruba community, with leaders and activists urging former CM Siddaramaiah to leverage his influence to secure greater representation for the group in ministerial and legislative roles.

Community voices describe Siddaramaiah's exit as chief minister as the end of a significant political era, highlighting what they call the inadequate empowerment of Kuruba leaders beyond the former CM himself. They argue that the time has come to build a broader second-rung leadership capable of wielding statewide influence.

Senior community figures have put forward specific demands. They are pushing for Haveri MLA Basavaraj Shivannavar, a former minister, to be considered for a senior cabinet position, including the deputy chief minister's post. There are also calls for ministerial berths for Hosadurga MLA B G Govindappa and Koppal MLA Raghavendra Hitnal.

Shivannavar said, "We need to have more representation for the community from among those elected from North Karnataka."

The Kurubas, classified as a most backward community, are seen as a pivotal force among Karnataka's backward castes, who collectively constitute around 56 per cent of the state's population. Political observers note that the community is considered a 'hiri anna or elder brother of the backwards' and its voting preferences often influence other backward groups, amplifying their electoral significance.

Despite Siddaramaiah's long and successful tenure at the helm of state politics, several Kuruba leaders express concern over the lack of a robust second line of leadership ready to occupy the state's highest offices. They point out that while leaders such as Hebbal MLA Byrathi Suresh and MLC Yathindra Siddaramaiah have risen in prominence, many grassroots activists do not yet view them as broad representatives of Kuruba aspirations because they are called 'Rathna Kambali' (elite Kurubas) not 'Kari Kambali' (poor Kurubas).

Former minister Adagur H Vishwanath, a Kuruba who served under former CM S M Krishna, reportedly voiced worries about a potential leadership vacuum. According to community members, Vishwanath believes it could take decades for Kurubas to produce another mass leader with the statewide appeal that Siddaramaiah commands.

Community leaders maintain that the Kurubas -- one of Karnataka's largest backward-class groups -- deserve a share of legislative and executive positions that matches their demographic and political weight.

Political analyst Sandeep Shastri said, "Given the fact that every Congress legislator sees himself/herself as a potential minister, each one has to find creative ways to justify their inclusion. Caste identity becomes an easy lever. The irony is that ministerships are seen as forms of political accommodation with very little focus on administrative capacity, leadership and governance. We also need to rethink whether including individuals to provide representation to a caste group can truly help their social group. Just and equitable growth for social groups is not necessarily a byproduct of having individuals from that social group as ministers."

FOCUS FEATURE

Creating Citizens, Not Just Scholars:

The Educational Journey of Dr. A. Ramya Ramesh

PICS BY: RAJGOPAL

At a time when education is increasingly measured through rankings, placements, technology adoption and examination scores, Dr. A. Ramya Ramesh continues to view it through a broader lens. For her, education is not merely a pathway to employment or academic success. It is a process that shapes character, develops responsibility, nurtures leadership and prepares young people to engage meaningfully with society.

As the Chief Executive Officer of HMR Group of Institutions, Bengaluru, Dr. Ramya has spent the better part of two decades building an educational ecosystem that places equal emphasis on academic excellence, life skills and social consciousness. Under her leadership, HMR has evolved from a modest institution into a multifaceted educational group serving students from early childhood through pre-university education.

Her journey into education, however, was neither planned nor inherited.

Coming from a business family, Dr. Ramya did not begin her career with ambitions of becoming an educationist. Instead, her entry into the field emerged through a combination of circumstance, observation and a growing awareness of the changing educational needs of families.

Today, she stands as an educator, administrator, social contributor and institutional leader whose work has earned recognition at regional, national and international levels. Yet, despite the accolades, she remains grounded in a simple philosophy that has shaped both her personal and professional life.

"Education is not limited to certificates," she says. "It is a complete package. It is about how you think, how you behave, how you treat people and what you contribute back to society."

An Unexpected Beginning

The story of HMR's transformation began with an opportunity.

Nearly two decades ago, Dr. Ramya and her family were presented with the chance to take over a small educational institution that catered primarily to students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. At the time, the school had fewer than a hundred students and operated on a limited scale.

The decision to enter education was not the result of a carefully crafted business plan. Instead, it coincided with another significant phase in her life: motherhood.

As she began exploring educational options for her own young children, she gained firsthand insight into the rapidly changing educational landscape.

Parents were becoming increasingly discerning. Educational institutions were no longer evaluated solely on academic outcomes. Infrastructure, extracurricular opportunities, student development programmes and institutional reputation had all become important considerations.

While these developments reflected rising aspirations, Dr. Ramya also observed a growing disconnect between quality education and affordability.

The experience prompted a fundamental question: Could an institution provide meaningful, value-based education without making it inaccessible to ordinary families?

The search for that answer became the foundation upon which HMR Group of Institutions would grow.

Leadership from Within

One of the defining characteristics of Dr. Ramya's leadership philosophy is her belief that leadership is not about authority.

She rejects the conventional notion that leaders must always stand at the forefront and direct others from a distance. Instead, she sees leadership as a process of participation and shared responsibility.

According to her, the strongest institutions are built when leaders work alongside their teams, understand their challenges and create an environment where everyone feels invested in a common vision.

This approach has influenced the culture within HMR.

Faculty members, administrators and support staff are encouraged to function as stakeholders in the institution's development rather than simply employees performing assigned tasks.

Dr. Ramya frequently credits her team for the institution's achievements, describing them as individuals who understand and embrace the larger vision of the organisation. Such a collaborative approach has helped create continuity across different educational levels within the institution, ensuring that students experience a consistent set of values throughout their academic journey.

The Philosophy of "True to Education"

The guiding motto of HMR Group of Institutions is "True to Education."

For Dr. Ramya, the phrase represents more than an institutional slogan. It encapsulates a philosophy that seeks to preserve the essence of education amid changing societal and technological realities.

In an age shaped by artificial intelligence, automation and digital learning, she acknowledges the importance of adapting to new technologies. HMR actively incorporates technological tools into learning environments and prepares students to engage with emerging developments.

At the same time, she believes technology should complement rather than replace foundational learning.

Her perspective is rooted in the conviction that every technological advancement originates from human thought, creativity and problem-solving.

Artificial intelligence, she argues, may transform the way people work and learn, but it cannot substitute the human values, judgement and intellectual curiosity that underpin meaningful education.

For this reason, she advocates a balanced approach where innovation is embraced while traditional educational principles continue to provide direction.

The objective is not to choose between technology and tradition but to integrate both in ways that benefit students.

Early Childhood as the Foundation

Among the various segments of the HMR educational ecosystem, early childhood education occupies a particularly important place. Through HMR Jnana Mandhir, the institution's preschool division, Dr. Ramya has sought to create learning environments that extend beyond conventional classroom instruction. The focus begins with independence. Children are encouraged to develop self-reliance through everyday activities. Tasks such as organising personal belongings, managing simple routines, and taking responsibility for their own actions are viewed as essential components of learning.

The rationale is straightforward. Education, in her view, begins long before formal academics. A child who develops confidence, communication skills, and independence during the early years is better equipped to handle future academic and social challenges. HMR Jnana Mandhir follows its distinctive PPM approach, a blend of Montessori and Kindergarten methodologies that focuses on the child's sensory, motor, and cognitive development. By integrating structured learning with hands-on experiences, the programme seeks to nurture curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking from an early age.

The institution also places significant emphasis on public speaking, creativity, storytelling, art, music, and experiential learning. Rather than relying exclusively on memorisation, educators seek to engage children through activities that stimulate imagination and encourage active participation.

The result is an educational environment designed to nurture confidence alongside competence, laying a strong foundation for lifelong learning and holistic development.

Beyond Marks and Report Cards

A recurring theme in Dr. Ramya's educational philosophy is her insistence that academic scores alone cannot define success. She frequently points out that while students and parents often remember major examination results, few remember every individual score achieved throughout a child's academic journey. What endures, she argues, are the skills, values, and experiences acquired during those years.

This perspective has shaped HMR's broader educational framework. Academic performance remains important, but it is complemented by programmes focused on communication, leadership, teamwork, social awareness, and personal development. Students are encouraged to participate in clubs, projects, and community initiatives that expose them to real-world experiences beyond textbooks. At the same time, the institution has consistently guided students towards academic excellence, with many securing admissions to reputed institutions in India and abroad, including premier institutes such as IIT Madras and NIT Surathkal.

The objective is to produce individuals who are academically capable while also being socially responsible and emotionally resilient. For Dr. Ramya, education succeeds when students develop the ability to navigate life independently and contribute positively to society.

Learning Through Service

Community engagement forms an important component of the HMR experience.

Among the institution's most visible initiatives is the "Joy of Giving" programme, which encourages students to participate directly in social outreach activities.

Students identify needs within communities, collect resources and help organise distribution efforts.

The emphasis is not on charity alone.

Instead, the programme seeks to cultivate empathy, awareness and a deeper understanding of social realities.

Students are encouraged to investigate community needs, understand the circumstances of beneficiaries and think critically about how support can be delivered effectively.

These experiences help young people recognise both their privileges and their responsibilities.

For Dr. Ramya, such lessons are as important as classroom instruction because they shape the attitudes students carry into adulthood.

Supporting Government Education

One of HMR's most significant social initiatives has been its adoption of the Government Primary School in Hennur.

The project emerged from concerns regarding infrastructure limitations and educational challenges faced by students in the government school system.

Over the years, the institution has supported improvements in infrastructure, academic engagement and student development activities.

HMR students regularly interact with government school students through educational and extracurricular programmes.

Facilities such as sports infrastructure and learning resources are also made available whenever possible.

The initiative reflects Dr. Ramya's belief that educational institutions have responsibilities that extend beyond their own campuses.

Education, she believes, must contribute to the broader community if it is to fulfil its true purpose.

Women, Leadership and Opportunity

As a woman leading a major educational institution, Dr. Ramya has often been asked about gender-related challenges.

Her response is notably balanced.

She acknowledges that many women face significant obstacles in balancing professional aspirations with family responsibilities. Career interruptions, societal expectations and unequal opportunities continue to affect women across sectors.

At the same time, she does not frame her own journey primarily through the lens of struggle.

She credits her parents, father Anjan Murthy and mother Subbalakshmi, husband HM Ramesh Gowda, an ex-MLC and also the Chairman of the Institutions and family for providing encouragement and support throughout her professional life.

This support, she believes, allowed her to pursue opportunities that might not have been available to everyone.

Her broader message centres on equality.

She rejects the notion that leadership abilities are determined by gender and consistently advocates equal opportunities for both men and women. Within educational settings, she emphasises the importance of exposing students to examples that challenge outdated stereotypes and demonstrate the capabilities of women across professions and leadership roles.

A Perspective on Educational Reform

Having spent years working directly with students, parents and educators, Dr. Ramya holds clear views on the future of education in India. She welcomes efforts to make learning more experiential and skill-oriented.

In particular, she sees value in aspects of the National Education Policy that encourage vocational exposure and practical learning.

However, she believes successful implementation requires stronger institutional ecosystems.

Vocational education cannot succeed in isolation. Students need access to industries, training opportunities and employment pathways that allow them to apply what they learn.

Without such infrastructure, policy objectives risk remaining theoretical.

Her observations are grounded in everyday educational realities.

Students benefit most when they can connect classroom concepts with practical experiences. Exposure to workplaces, industries and professional environments enables them to make informed decisions about future careers.

For this reason, she advocates closer collaboration between educational institutions, industry and government.

Looking Beyond Bengaluru

Dr. Ramya also speaks about the need for balanced regional development.

Like many observers, she recognises the pressures created by rapid urbanisation and migration into major cities.

She believes educational opportunities and employment generation must be distributed more evenly across districts and smaller urban centres.

Strengthening local educational institutions and promoting region-specific industries could help create sustainable development pathways while reducing migration pressures. Such ideas reflect her broader concern with creating opportunities closer to where people live.

While her primary focus remains education, her observations frequently extend into questions of community development, governance and public welfare.

Continuing the Journey as Syndicate Member

Today, Dr. Ramya continues to balance multiple responsibilities as an educator, administrator and social contributor. She is also set to assume responsibilities as a Syndicate Member in the university system, a role that offers opportunities to contribute to higher education governance on a broader scale. Despite increasing visibility in public life and periodic speculation regarding future political involvement, she remains focused on education.

Her priorities continue to centre on students, institutional development and community engagement. Ultimately, what distinguishes Dr. Ramya's approach is not a pursuit of recognition or influence but a consistent emphasis on values. Throughout conversations about education, leadership and social responsibility, she repeatedly returns to the same fundamental principles: honesty, empathy, accountability and service. For her, these are not abstract ideals. They are practical foundations for building institutions, strengthening communities and preparing future generations. In a period when education is often evaluated through measurable outcomes and competitive rankings, Dr. A. Ramya Ramesh offers a reminder that the purpose of education extends far beyond examinations. It is about preparing individuals not only to earn a living but also to live responsibly, think independently and contribute meaningfully to society. That philosophy continues to shape the work of HMR Group of Institutions and the vision of the woman who leads it.

RECOGNITION AND HONOURS

Throughout her career, Dr. Ramya's work has attracted considerable recognition from educational, social and civic organisations.

SELECT HONOURS & AWARDS

- Honoured Doctorate from Academy of Unive sal Global Peace for social work, peace building and life achievement
- Doctoral recognition for research on "How to Inculcate Global Peace Among Students"
- "The Great Daughter" Award presented by Hon. Justice Prasanna B. Varale, Judge, Supreme Court of India
- Young Woman Entrepreneur of the Year, Educational Council of India
- Pride of Karnataka 2024 recognition by Press Club of Bangalore
- Nadaprabhu Kempegowda International Award, Dubai
- Best CEO Award at the National Summit on Globalization of Economic & Social Development, 2024
- Great Daughter of Karnataka Award

Institutional Achievements

- HMR International School ranked No. 1 for Innovative Teaching by India's School Merit Awards
- Best School for Innovation & Value Based Education
- School Brilliance Award for Infrastructure and Resources
- Education Excellence Award 2023 Karnataka
- International School Awards Bangkok 2023: Best All-Rounder School
- Excellence in Life Skill & Activity Based Learning Recognition, 2024

Recognition for excellence: Dr. A. Ramya Ramesh is honoured with "The Great Daughter" Award by Hon. Justice Prasanna B. Varale at the Indian Conference of Intellectuals.

ROLE MODEL
"Sudarshan Karle's (Managing Director, Karle Group) leadership, simplicity, and commitment to excellence continue to inspire my approach to learning, growth, and service."
– Dr. A. Ramya Ramesh

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Health and Family Welfare Minister UT Khader said on Sunday that government hospitals across the state are facing a shortfall of 900 doctors, and applications have been invited from MBBS graduates for contractual appointment

RED ALERT FOR COASTAL, MALNAD DISTS AS MONSOON MOVES INTO K'TAKA

Upper-air cyclonic circulation over east-central Arabian Sea, east-west trough across Coastal K'taka to enhance rainfall

Tree fall near Lok Bhavan hits traffic

BENGALURU: Traffic came to a standstill in the heart of the city on Sunday after a massive tree came crashing down on Ali Asker Cross Road, the vital stretch connecting Raj Bhavan Road to Infantry Road. The incident caused severe traffic congestion and unusual rush near Raj Bhavan for about two hours on Sunday evening. The tree also damaged the compound wall of the Old LRDE (Electronics and Radar Development Establishment) building, which currently houses urban planning and development authorities. The tree stretched from one side of the road to the other, leaving no space for vehicles to pass. "Some passersby sustained minor bruises, but no one suffered serious injuries," police sources said. DCP Traffic Anup Shetty told *TNIE* that traffic was immediately diverted through connecting roads. Joint Commissioner of Traffic Karthik Reddy issued an advisory urging motorists to avoid the affected stretch. —**Bansy Kalappa**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WIDESPREAD rainfall is likely across Karnataka over the week, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issuing a red alert in coastal and parts of South and North interior districts as the southwest monsoon advances further across the region.

Dakshina Kannada and Udupi have been placed under red alert on Monday and Tuesday, while Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga and Uttara Kannada will also come under red alert on Tuesday and Wednesday. And the monsoon advances, Belagavi, Dharwad and Haveri are also on red alert on Wednesday.

According to the IMD, conditions are favourable for the monsoon to cover more parts of Karnataka within the next two to three days. Upper air cyclonic circulation over east-central Arabian Sea and east-west trough extending across Coastal Karnataka are expected to enhance rainfall activity across the state.

A family rides through rain under an umbrella in Jayanagar, Bengaluru on Sunday | **KEVIN NASHON**

The coastal districts of Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada are likely to receive the heaviest rainfall. IMD has forecast extremely heavy rain in parts of coastal Karnataka from Monday to Wednesday, with heavy to very heavy rain expected to continue until June 13. Winds of 30-40 kmph are also likely along the coast.

In South Interior Karnataka, districts including Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga and Kodagu are expected to receive heavy to extremely heavy rainfall between Monday and Thursday. Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Mysuru, Mandya, Ramanagara, Hassan and Tumakuru are likely to come under light to moderate rain, accompanied by gusty winds during most days of the week.

North Interior Karnataka will also see active weather conditions. Belagavi, Dharwad, Haveri, Gadag and Raichur districts are likely to receive heavy rainfall, while thunderstorms accompanied by gusty winds of 40-50 kmph are forecast between Monday and Wednesday. Extremely heavy rain is likely in parts of Belagavi, Dharwad and Haveri on Wednesday. IMD has not issued any temperature warning, with maximum temperatures expected to remain largely unchanged over the next five days.

For Bengaluru, cloudy skies, light to moderate rain and winds of 30-40 kmph are expected until Monday, while day temperatures are likely to remain around 30°C, and minimum temperatures may hover near 21°C.

Authorities have advised residents in vulnerable areas, especially along the coast and in hilly districts, to remain alert for waterlogging, localized flooding and disruptions caused by heavy rain and strong winds.

Format C-7

(for political parties to publish in the newspapers, social media platforms & website of the party)

Information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases, who have been selected as candidates, along with the reasons for such selection, as also as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates

(As per the Commission's directions issued in pursuance of the Order dated 13.02.2020 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in contempt petition(C) no. 2192 of 2018 in WP(C) no. 536 of 2011)

Name of Political Party : **INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS**

*Name of the Election : **BIENNIAL ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF STATES (RAJYA SABHA)**

Name of State/ UT: **KARNATAKA**

(1) Name of the Constituency - **BIENNIAL ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF STATES (RAJYA SABHA) - KARNATAKA**

Name of the candidate – **SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE**

SL.NO	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	**Criminal Antecedents**					
	A. Nature of the Offences	Sections 123(3), 123(3A) & 125 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951; Sections 171, 196(2) & 197(1)(c) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023	Sections 196(1) (b) & 353(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023	Sections 196(1) (b) & 353(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023	Section 210(c) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023	IPC 1860 (153-A), IPC 1860 (500), IPC 1860 (506)
	B. Case No.	Yet to be assigned (matter under investigation; not yet sent to Court). FIR No. 0048/2026 – Pending.	Yet to be assigned (matter under investigation; not yet sent to Court). FIR No. 0051/2026- Pending	Yet to be assigned (matter under investigation; not yet sent to Court). FIR No. 0115/2026 – Pending	Court of Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (MP/MLA), Lucknow Case No. 102873/2025 Pending	Yet to be assigned (matter under investigation; not yet sent to Court). FIR No.76 – Year 2019 - Pending
	C. Name of the Court	Yet to be assigned (matter under investigation; not yet sent to Court).	Yet to be assigned (matter under investigation; not yet sent to Court).	Yet to be assigned (matter under investigation; not yet sent to Court).	Court of Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (MP/MLA), Lucknow	Yet to be assigned (matter under investigation; not yet sent to Court).
	D. Wether Charges have been Framed Or Not [Yes/NO]	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
	D .Date of Conviction, If any.	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
	F. Details of Punishment undergone, If any.	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
	G. Any other information required to be given.	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
2	**The reasons for the selection of the candidate. Selection shall be with reference to the qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate, and not mere "winnability" at the polls (not more than 100 words)**	The Candidate has a long and Distinguished Political and Electoral Track record. He has in the past 50 years served as MLA and Minister in the State of Karnataka , as a Leader of Opposition in Karnataka Assembly as a KPCC president, as a MP and Minister for Two times in Centre , As a Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha. Further , He also Working as a President of the AICC New Delhi. The Candidate has parallel organization, Political and Electoral Experience				
3	**Reasons as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates (not more than 100 words)**	All the five cases have been registered with the Politically motivated by the opposite party , where even Case No. have not given and also charge sheet have not given to the Jurisdictional Court . Moreover, as a Senior most leader of the Party with wide and deep experience. No other Individuals with commensurate experience could be identified.				

2. Name of the Constituency - **BIENNIAL ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF STATES (RAJYA SABHA) - KARNATAKA.**

Name of the candidate – **SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE.**

* In the case of election to Council of States or States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of Constituency.

KARNATAKA PRADESH CONGRESS COMMITTEE No. 14, Queens Road, Bangalore - 560 052

(B.K. HARIPRASAD)
President
Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee
Bangalore

Rain mayhem claims woman's life, floods hospital, uproots 200 trees in Ballari

BALLARI: A 45-year-old woman was found dead in the TB Canal near the Andral area of Ballari city on Sunday morning. The deceased was identified as Fatima, an employee of a private bank in Ballari. Police suspect that she may have accidentally slipped into the canal during the heavy rain that lashed Ballari city on Saturday night. Preliminary investigation indicated that poor visibility and slippery surroundings due to incessant rain could have led to the incident. According to officials, over 200 trees were uprooted across the city, while nearly 30 vehicles were damaged after trees and electric poles collapsed during the heavy rain. Rainwater entered the premises and wards of the Ballari Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS) Hospital, creating panic among patients and attendants during the night. Hospital authorities shifted several patients from ground-floor wards to upper floors after water began entering parts of the hospital building. **ENS**

Chandragupta is K'taka intel chief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IN a significant bureaucratic reshuffle, an unusual move on a Sunday, the Karnataka government transferred several IAS and IPS officers. Senior police officer Chandragupta has been appointed Inspector General of Police (Intelligence), replacing Labhu Ram as the head of the Intelligence wing.

The Congress-led state government has also created a new post of Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister (Programme and Project Implementation) and appointed GBA Special Commissioner (Administration, Revenue and IT) Munish Moudgil to the position. According to the government, the new post carries the same status and responsibilities as that of a Principal Secretary to the government.

Senior bureaucrat Anjum Parwez has been appointed Additional Chief Secretary to the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department.

According to the notification issued on Sunday, Deepa Cholan, who was serving as Secretary to the Urban Development Department, has been transferred as Secretary to the Transport Department, replacing N V Prasad. Meanwhile, 2008-batch IAS officer Cauvery B B has been posted as Secretary to the Urban Development Department.

M V Venkatesh has been appointed Registrar of Co-operative Societies, while Selvamani R has been posted as Commissioner for Transport and Road Safety.

Among the IPS transfers, senior police officer Pronab Mohanty, who was serving as Director General of Police (Internal Security Division), has been appointed Director General of Police, Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Special Units and Economic Offences. He has also been given concurrent charge as Director General of Police (Cyber Crimes), CID.

EXPRESS READ

Woman dies in homestay, gas leak suspected

MADIKERI: A woman tourist died due to a suspected gas leak at a homestay in Somwarpet on Sunday. Vinuta (27) was working with a private company in Bengaluru. As per preliminary investigations, she died of asphyxiation following a gas leak from the gas geyser. A group of 14 people from a healthcare solutions company in Bengaluru had arrived in Kodagu on a two-day trip and was staying at a homestay near Somwarpet town. As per sources, Vinuta, who was among them, died due to a lack of oxygen after she is suspected to have inhaled toxic gas from the leaking geyser. Vinuta's parents, Jagannath and Renuka, are residents of Mysuru. Somwarpet police visited the spot, registered a case and are investigating. **ENS**

Kotiyoor pilgrimage rush triggers traffic gridlock

MYSURU: The month-long annual pilgrimage to the renowned Kottiyoor temple in Kerala has led to unprecedented traffic congestion and inconvenience for thousands of devotees, particularly those travelling from Mysuru and various parts of the state to participate in the ongoing darshan. With the pilgrimage attracting lakhs of devotees every year, roads connecting Mysuru, Hunsur, Periyapatna, Gonikoppal, Kutta, Thithimathi and Mananthavady have witnessed a massive influx of vehicles over the past few days. According to devotees who returned to Mysuru, the situation turned chaotic on the weekend when traffic came to a near standstill on the Thithimathi road stretch, forcing motorists and pilgrims to remain stranded for nearly two hours. Allegations of mistreatment for devotees, particularly those arriving from Karnataka, have also triggered resentment among pilgrims. Several devotees claimed they were subjected to long waiting periods. **ENS**

Kannada activist Amrut Ijare passed away on Saturday, leaving the Kannada and Mahadayi movements bereft of campaigner. Ijare was the president of the North Karnataka unit of Namma Karnataka Sene and was known for his involvement in Kannada and regional cause

Union minister obstructing irrigation project: Revanth

Says Kishan influencing Fadnavis on Tummidihetti project

MANDA RAVINDER REDDY
@ Hyderabad

T'gana CM Revanth Reddy says Maha CM Devendra Fadnavis is avoiding meetings

TELANGANA Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Sunday alleged that Union Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy was actively obstructing Telangana's development and claimed that the senior BJP leader had influenced Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to withhold permission for the proposed Pranahita-Chevella project at Tummidihetti.

Launching a sharp attack on Kishan while addressing a public meeting after laying foundation stones for development works in Malkajgiri, the CM alleged that the Union minister was creating hurdles in securing approvals and support from the Centre for key projects proposed by the state government.

"Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis is avoiding meetings with us to discuss the Pranahita-Chevella Project. Sources in the Maharashtra Chief Minister's Office have informed us that Kishan Reddy asked them not to grant permission for the project," Revanth claimed. Drawing comparisons with projects undertaken elsewhere in the country, Revanth said the BJP had no objection to the development of the Sabarmati riverfront in Gujarat, the Yamuna rejuvenation project in Delhi or the Ganga rejuvenation programme in Uttar Pradesh. "When we seek to develop the Musi river, objections are raised. If the Musi Riverfront Development Project is completed, Hyderabad will grow rapidly and generate employment opportunities," he said. The chief minister warned that the state government would launch an agitation programme if the Centre failed to procure the paddy purchased by the state and grant pending project permissions by June 15.

Revanth asked Kishan to clarify whether he would secure permissions and funds from the Centre for the Musi Riverfront Development Project, Metro Rail expansion and other major infrastructure projects. Despite visiting Delhi nearly 50 times and meeting PM Narendra Modi on five occasions, the Centre was not responding positively to Telangana's proposals, he alleged.

The controversy erupted on Saturday when Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's remarks that he drew inspiration from Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler while naming HYDRAA have sparked a political row with the BRS and the BJP strongly criticising him. Speaking at an event in Bengaluru on Saturday, Reddy said he decided to establish HYDRAA after observing widespread encroachments of lakes and waterbodies by the rich people.

WEATHER HAVOC

Extreme weather displaces 1.16L in AP in 2025

USHA PERI @ Visakhapatnam

AS many as 1.16 lakh people were internally displaced in Andhra Pradesh during 2025 due to cyclones and severe storm events, making the State one of the worst affected in the country, according to the State of India's Environment 2026 report released by Down To Earth.

The report states that AP recorded 1,16,000 weather-related displacements, the highest among all States. Uttar Pradesh followed with 1,10,490 displacements, while West Bengal reported 80,000. Together, these States accounted for more than half of all internal displacements recorded across 28 States and Union Territories during the year.

The findings point to the increasing vulnerability of AP to climate-related disasters. Extreme weather events affected the State on 58 days between October and December 2025, the second-highest in the country after Himachal Pradesh, which recorded 62 days.

The trend has continued into 2026. During the first three months of the year, AP recorded 10 days of extreme weather, compared with zero in 2022, three in 2023, two in 2024 and one in 2025 during the same period. Heat stress is emerging as a major concern. In 2025, two weather stations in AP recorded their highest temperatures in 124 years of observations, while five stations registered record monthly temperatures. The report notes that the number of annual hot days has increased from 42 before the Paris Agreement period to 48 at the current global warming level of about 1.3°C. Even if global climate goals are achieved, annual hot days could rise to 73 by the end of the century.

Agriculture continues to face mounting pressure. AP, Maharashtra and Karnataka together account for nearly 70% of farm-sector suicides in the country. While suicides among farmers and cultivators in the State declined from 628 in 2019 to 88 in 2024, suicides among agricultural labourers rose from 401 to 692 during the same period.

Vehicles wade through a waterlogged stretch in Palarivattom after heavy rain lashes Kochi on Sunday | A SANESH

Southwest monsoon to enter Odisha in 3-4 days

The torment of the scorching heat is set to wane by the end of this week as the much-awaited southwest monsoon is likely to enter the state within the next three to four days. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Sunday said the pace of pre-monsoon showers has intensified across Odisha. The monsoon winds have strengthened and conditions are favourable for its arrival in the state by mid-week, said director of the Bhubaneswar Meteorological Centre Manorama Mohanty. "Conditions are favourable for the advance of the southwest monsoon into parts of Chhattisgarh and Odisha, the remaining areas of North East and parts of sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim over the next three to four days," Mohanty said. ENS

YELLOW ALERT ISSUED IN SEVERAL DISTRICTS OF TELANGANA

HYDERABAD: Heavy rains lashed parts of Telangana on Sunday, with the Shabad mandal in Rangareddy district recording the highest rainfall at 6.7 cm. The Hyderabad Meteorological Centre (HMC) has issued a yellow alert for heavy rainfall across several districts on June 8. The southwest monsoon has advanced further over the Bay of Bengal and is expected to move into more parts of Telangana. The HMC warned that several districts are likely to experience thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds reaching speeds of 40-50 kmph. Light to moderate rainfall is expected at isolated places across parts of the state over the next two days. ENS

KERALA COMEDIAN SCRIPTS FINAL CHAPTER

Chandu Kumar, son of late actor Salim Kumar, gives a final kiss after his father's mortal remains were placed on the funeral pyre at his residence in Paravur, Ernaklulam, on Sunday. The Malayalam film industry and cultural fraternity, and thousands of admirers bid farewell to the actor. The mortal remains were brought to Paravur Municipal Town Hall around 9am. He was then taken to his residence, where he was cremated with full state honours | A SANESH

LPG price hike adds to household burden

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE recent increase in the price of domestic LPG cylinders by Rs 29 has pushed the cost in Bengaluru to Rs 944 from Rs 915, adding to the burden on consumers already grappling with a series of price hikes in recent months. This is the second hike in the past three months. In March, LPG prices were increased by Rs 60 per cylinder following disruptions in global energy markets linked to tensions in West Asia. The price of a 5-kg LPG cylinder has also risen by around Rs 10, from Rs 340 to Rs 351.

Speaking to *TNIE* about the impact of the hike, Ravi Richard, a retired professor, said, "The LPG price hike affects lower-middle-class and economically weaker sections in a serious way. The Union government should ensure that low-income groups are protected from such increases through a differential pricing system. Those who can afford higher prices may be charged more, while poorer sections should be shielded from the burden."

"The repeated increase in LPG prices is putting significant pressure on household budgets, particularly those of middle-class and poor families. For families like ours, every rupee matters. The rising cost of essentials such as milk, cooking oil and now cooking gas is making daily life increasingly expensive," said Shrikant, a resident of Horamavu. He added that the impact is being felt across the economy, with hotels and restaurants already raising prices. "Coupled with higher electricity tariffs, garbage collection charges and the implementation of the new labour code, food prices are likely to rise further," he said. Suresh Kumar, an employee of a private company, said, "Given the trend of frequent LPG price hikes, it will not be surprising if the price crosses Rs 1,000 per cylinder. We are already bearing the burden of rising fuel costs and the increase in prices of essential commodities driven by higher diesel prices."

Fraudsters target elderly people, those living alone

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

INVESTIGATORS believe that while some victims are contacted through random calls, many are now being specifically targeted after fraudsters obtain personal information through data breaches and other illegal sources. Fraudsters are particularly targeting senior citizens and individuals living alone, as they are often less aware of modern technology and can be easily preyed upon. They also monitor social media profiles to identify potential victims.

The scammers first profile their targets and then approach them online posing as officials from central investigation agencies. They accuse victims of involvement in serious crimes, like money laundering, drug trafficking and other offences. Fake documents, arrest warrants and video calls from rooms resembling police stations are used to make the threats appear real, giving victims little time or space to think rationally, cybercrime investigators said. Once fear takes hold, the fraudsters isolate victims by instructing them not to disconnect calls or inform family members. They continuously threaten them with arrest, imprisonment and seizure of assets. In most cases, the fraudsters claim they can help resolve the issue and proceed to collect the victims' personal, financial and banking details. They analyse recent transactions, purchases, investments and assets, claiming the information is required for verification. By alternating fear with reassurance that their money will be returned after verification, the scammers exploit victims' trust, causing many to transfer their life savings. Another senior police officer said that, in many cases, victims revealed that they were under tremendous psychological pressure. The threats of arrest, coupled with forged documents that appear genuine, leave them with little time to think rationally and verify the claims being made.

Officer added that despite aggressive awareness campaigns informing the public that the police and investigating agencies never conduct arrests online or ask for money transfers for verification, many continue to fall victim. "In moments of panic, victims stop using their common sense and fraudsters exploit this fear to siphon off money," the officer said.

EXPRESS READ

7,613 lives lost on Kerala roads in 2 years; 6-9pm most fatal

Kerala lost over 7,500 lives to road accidents in the two-year period to 2025, with the 6pm to 9pm window proving to be the most dangerous, the 'Road Accident Analysis Report' released by the State Crime Records Bureau revealed. 7,613 peo-ple lost their lives in nearly one lakh road accidents over the period, averaging to 10 fatalities a day. A 21% of the fatalities occurred during the peak hours of 6pm to 9pm. In contrast, the time period between midnight and 3am saw the lowest accidents at 2.23% and fewest deaths at 1.86%. Overspeeding was the number one cause of death, leading to 46% fatalities. ENS

BoB opens 50th branch in Bengaluru

Bank of Baroda (BoB) recently inaugurated its 50th branch at Vishweshwaraiah Layout in the Bengaluru North region. It was inaugurated by Manoj Chayani, the bank's chief general manager and zonal head. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Deputy general manager (cluster) V Sripoorna , Deputy General Manager and Regional Head Rajiv Kumar Mishra, Assistant General manager of Bengaluru North region Shan M and Branch Head Annu John, several customers and staff members. Chayani highlighted the business potential of the Vishweshwaraiah Layout area and expressed confidence that the new branch would contribute significantly to the bank's growth ambitions. ENS

Inscription of Rashtrakuta era found in Gadag

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR
@ Mevundi/Gadag

A RARE inscription has been discovered in Mevundi village near Gadag. The record reveals that it is a 'veeragallu' — a memorial stone — belonging to a servant who chose to give his life after the death of his king.

During the Rashtrakuta era, a ruler known as Kuppe Arasa, who governed Puligere in the present Lakshmeshwar region, is said to have died of illness. The inscription further states that his servant, Ratteyanna, would journey toward what is now the Mevundi region and would die in front of his master's samadhi, as an act of atma balidan (self-sacrifice).

However, the inscription also makes it clear that this keelugunte is unlike the more common veeragallu traditions. It notes that the servant arrived from hundreds of miles away, pointing out the unusual scale and devotion behind the ritual. Such practices in earlier times were colloquially referred to as Keelugunte. History scholars in Gadag explain that the term Keelugunte likely derives from two Kannada words — "Keelu", meaning to pull, and "kunte/kundi", meaning grave.

The veeragallu was unearthed during a recent, in-depth research drive by a team of history enthusiasts focusing on veeragallu traditions across Karnataka. Shweta Bhasme and her team, who were preparing a thesis on the veeragallu of the region, uncovered this exceptional inscription while documenting memorial stones.

Rare veeragallu (memorial stone) found at Mevundi village

niist सीएसआईआर- राष्ट्रीय अंतर्विषयी विज्ञान तथा प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान
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Industrial Estate PO, Pappanamcode, Thiruvananthapuram-695019.

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

CSIR-NIIST invites interested and eligible candidates for Walk-in-Interview to be held at NIIST-Thiruvananthapuram for engagement of Project Staffs on temporary basis, to work under various projects. For more details and application form please visit www.niist.res.in.

Sd/-
प्रशासन नियंत्रक / Controller of Administration

UJVN Limited
H.O.: "UJJAWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135- 2763508
CIN NO. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website : https://ujvnl.uk.gov.in/

RO No. 481 Corrigendum No.- 14 (Time Extension) Dated : 06/06/2026
e-Tender Notice
Due to unavoidable reasons, the dates of e-Tender No. 01/DGM(E&M D-I)/UJVNL/2025-26 invited by Office of the Dy. General Manager, E&M Design-I, UJVN Ltd., Ganga Bhawan, Yamuna Colony, Dehradun (Uttarakhand) are hereby extended as follows:
Last date for submission of bids on website : 12.06.2026 up to 17:00 Hrs.
Last date for submission of Original documents (Hard Copies) : 16.06.2026 up to 17:00 Hrs.
Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid on Portal : 17.06.2026 from 11:00 Hrs.
Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in".
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity" Dy. General Manager (E&M Design-I)

GANDHI ENGINEERING COLLEGE (GEC AUTONOMOUS)
Badaraghunathpur, Bhubaneswar, Dist: Khordha-752054
TENDER NOTICE
Sealed/Online tenders are invited for the purchase of equipment, tools, consumables under AICTE IDEA Lab at our institute.
For details visit:
https://sites.google.com/gec.edu.in/aicteidealab/home
Contact: principal@gec.edu.in
Cell :7381054141
Deadline: 10-06-2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to notify the General Public that my client M/s. JR VENTURES, a Partnership Firm, rep. by its Managing Partner Mr. R Mahesh has negotiated with the following land owners for purchase of the lands described in the schedule herebelow, on their representation that they are the absolute owners of their respective lands.
Any person/s having any claim, right, title or interest of whatsoever manner with regard to the Schedule Property or anybody opposing the sale transaction may lodge such claim or objection, in writing with documentary proof to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this Notice, failing which my clients would proceed to complete the sale transaction, presuming that there are no valid claims or objections.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the following lands situated at Attikuppe and Chikkasadenahalli Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Harohalli Taluk, Ramanagara District, now Bengaluru South District;

Sl.No.	Sy.No	Extent A	Extent G	Village	Owner's name
01	99/10	1	20	Attikuppe	Sunanda
02	24/7	0	20½	Attikuppe	Puttaiah
03	24/14	0	30	Attikuppe	Mahadevamma
04	121	1	14	Attikuppe	Mahadevamma
05	122/2	0	19	Attikuppe	Mahadevamma
06	111	7	20	Chikkasadenahalli	Veerabhadraiah & others.

NARASIMHAMURTHY A. S., Advocate Bengaluru, Date:07.06.2026
No. 31, 5th Cross, 23rd Main, J P Nagar, 2nd Phase
Bengaluru-560078, Ph-9886434287 & 9343769902

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I AT BANGALORE
Telephone House, BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001. Karnataka
O.A. NO. 189/2025
BETWEEN: M/S. Canara Bank, Erstwhile SYNDICATE BANK, RAJAJINAGAR I BLOCK BRANCH, First Floor, Dr, Rajkumar Road, BANGALORE - 560 010. ... APPLICANT
AND: Sri. Manjunath .K ... DEFENDANT
SUMMONS/NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE RULES, 1993
To, SRI. K. MANJUNATHA, S/o Sri. Krishnappa, aged about 39 Years, No. 124/4, 1st Main Road, Byraveshwaranagar, Laggere, Bengaluru - 560 058.
ALSO AT :- Sri. K. MANJUNATHA, Prop: of Unit at No. 122/2, 1st Main Road, 4th Cross, Byraveshwaranagar, Laggere, Bengaluru - 560 058. ... DEFENDANT.
WHEREAS, O.A.No. 189/2025 was listed before the Registrar, on 14.05.2026.
WHEREAS, this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons on the said application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 21,63,837.74p (Rupees Twenty-one Lakhs Sixty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Seven and Paise Seventy Four only) against you in accordance with sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, you the defendant is directed as under:
(i) To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted. (ii) To disclose particulars of the properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the Applicant under serial number 3A of the Original Application. (iii) You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the Original Application pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties. iv) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal. (v) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.
You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant Registrar on 06-08-2026 at 10:30 A.M failing which the application and to appear before the shall be heard and decided in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 14-05-2026
By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-I, Bangalore.
Advocate for Applicant: VIJAYAN .N

QuoteExpress IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE) NELSON MANDELA

PUBLIC NOTICE
On behalf of our Client we are hereby issuing this public notice, our client intends to purchase the property morefully described in the schedule below by way of absolute sale from Smt. POOVAMMA, aged about 60 years, W/o. Late. Siddumani (having no childrens). Any person who has any objection and/or claim with respect to the intended sale of the below property is hereby called upon to send their claim and/or objection to the undersigned within 10 days from today, falling which it will be assumed by our client that none have any objection and/or claim for the intended sale of the below schedule property and our client will proceed with the said purchase of the below mentioned schedule property.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of Site No.499, having BBMP Katha No.265/499, E PID No. 2853596580, formed in Land bearing Sy.No. 10/1 of Siddedahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently comes under BBMP limits Ward No.14, Bagalagunte, Bangalore, measuring East to West : 30-0 feet, North to South : 40-0 feet, totally 1200 Sqft and bounded on: East by : Site No.498, West by : Site No.500, North by : Site No.508, South by : 30 feet Road.
G N G ASSOCIATES
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS
No.734, Next to Metro Station, T.Dasarahalli, Bangalore-560057. Ph No: 9916356556

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
O. A. No.871 /2024
Between: Karnataka Bank Ltd., Biadi Branch . ...Applicant
And
Sri Rajkumar SM & Others
And
3. Sri Chikkalingegowda S/o. Chudalingegowda, Residing at : 13-2, Bhadregowdana Doddi, Harohalli Hobli , Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara Distirct Pin - 562 117. . ....Defendants
NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993
Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of Rs.20,01,374.94 (Rupees Twenty Lakh one Thousand Three Hundred and Seventy Four and Paise Ninety Four Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendant is therefore hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agent in support of their defence to show-cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on 09.07.2026 at 10:30 a.m. as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted.
Take notice that in case default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Hon'ble Tribunal on 03.06.2026.
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -2, Bangalore

EDITORIAL

"Often, when you're disadvantaged, you don't ask for what you most need because you never imagine that you'll get it" — Bina Agarwal

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

TARIFFS BY ANOTHER NAME: INDIA MUST ENGAGE, NOT BEND

THE United States' proposed 12.5 percent tariff on imports from India and 53 other countries is not yet law. Public hearings are scheduled for July and affected countries still have an opportunity to challenge the findings. But the message from Washington is unmistakable—tariffs remain the preferred instrument of US trade policy even when previous tariff frameworks have run into legal trouble.

The latest action stems from a Section 301 investigation in which the US Trade Representative concluded that India and dozens of other countries have failed to prohibit imports of goods allegedly produced with forced labour. The charge is striking not for what it says but for what it does not say. The US is not accusing India of producing exports for the American market using forced labour. Instead, it argues that India's own import practices create distortions that ultimately disadvantage American workers. That is an expansive interpretation of Section 301, a law designed to address unfair foreign practices that directly harm American commerce. Historically, it has been used against issues like intellectual property violations and market-access barriers. Extending it to scrutinise what sovereign countries import from third countries pushes the boundaries of arbitrary trade enforcement.

The timing is significant. The proposal arrives as Washington and New Delhi seek an interim trade deal while negotiating a broader bilateral trade agreement. It also follows judicial setbacks to earlier tariff measures. In that context, the forced-labour investigation appears to provide a stronger legal basis for new tariffs while increasing negotiating leverage over trading partners. Supply-chain transparency and ethical sourcing are certainly legitimate global objectives. However, credibility matters. Exemptions for strategically important products such as rare earths, certain metals and other critical inputs show that labour standards are being applied selectively by Washington.

India should respond with calm resolve. It must engage in the proceedings, challenge the legal and factual basis of the proposed tariffs and defend its interests. Similarly, New Delhi should continue trade negotiations with Washington, recognising the strategic value of a stronger economic partnership. However, the two processes should remain separate. Trade agreements should be driven by mutual economic benefit and not negotiated under threat of punitive tariffs. If the proposed 12.5-percent duty is intended as leverage, India should resist. Durable partnerships are built on reciprocity, trust and respect, not coercion.

BRIDGE THE SAFETY GAP IN MEDICAL TOURISM

THE fire at Flourish Stay B&B in Malviya Nagar in June 2026, which killed 21 people, including 13 foreign medical tourists, has drawn attention to the conditions in which many patients and their families stay while seeking treatment in India. Every year, thousands of people from Bangladesh, Nepal, Afghanistan, several African countries, and West Asia and the Gulf travel to Indian cities for surgeries and other procedures. For many, India offers medical care at a fraction of the cost elsewhere. Others come because the treatment they need is unavailable at home. To save money, families often stay in inexpensive guesthouses or rented rooms near hospitals, sometimes for weeks or even months during treatment.

The Delhi tragedy has exposed a problem that extends far beyond one neighbourhood. Around major hospitals in several cities, clusters of budget guesthouses and small lodgings cater to patients and relatives seeking affordable accommodation. Some operate from buildings never designed to house so many occupants. Extra rooms and floors are added, while safety measures often fail to keep pace. In crowded localities where buildings stand cheek by jowl, a fire can quickly escalate into a catastrophe. The same risks exist in hospital districts in Mumbai, Vellore, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and other cities that attract large numbers of domestic and foreign patients. Narrow lanes, ageing structures and the relentless demand for low-cost accommodation can complicate rescue operations during an emergency. Yet questions about inspections, approvals and enforcement often arise only after a tragedy. Responsibility is diffused across multiple agencies, while unsafe properties continue to operate in plain sight.

India has earned a reputation for affordable medical care and attracts patients from across the developing world. But the responsibility to those patients does not end at the hospital gate. Many are recovering from surgery, caring for sick children or supporting elderly relatives, making them less able to respond swiftly in an emergency. The Malviya Nagar fire is a stark reminder that affordable accommodation cannot come at the expense of basic safety. Stronger inspections, clearer accountability and safe, regulated patient housing near major hospitals are no longer optional. People who travel thousands of kilometres in search of treatment and hope should not have to risk their lives because they cannot afford safer accommodation.

QUICK TAKE

BATTLE OF BUGS

ALPHABET'S Verily's plans to release 64 million mosquitoes across California and Florida sounds like the plot of a futuristic thriller. The twist? These are non-biting male mosquitoes carrying Wolbachia, a bacterium that prevents uninfected females from producing offspring, gradually lowering disease-spreading populations. Scientists see it as a clever alternative to chemical insecticides. If successful, fewer mosquitoes could mean fewer cases of West Nile virus and other illnesses. But large-scale biological interventions deserve careful public debate and rigorous oversight. The bigger issue may be who gets to shape such experiments. As technology giants expand into life sciences, society should welcome innovation while remaining wary of concentrated corporate influence over public health and the environment.

India faces genuine economic pressures, but not collapse; rather than alarmism or partisan blame, the current crisis should spur overdue reforms and strengthen long-term resilience

THE ECONOMY MATTERS, SO DOES CONTEXT

MAKARAND R PARANJAPE
Author and commentator

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

SOURAV ROY

BILL Clinton's famous 1992 campaign quip, "It's the economy, stupid", has become a perennial refrain in democratic politics. It ends up meaning many things, of course. But the underlying message is clear: to the citizenry, which is also the electorate, the economy matters more than ideology.

No wonder that in India today, it echoes in a chorus of criticism portraying an economy in dire straits. Opposition voices, sections of the media and imported analytical frameworks paint a picture of collapse, stagnation and policy failure. Yet a dispassionate assessment reveals that India is not doing too badly.

Growth remains robust by global standards, inflation is largely contained and structural vulnerabilities, especially the oil shock caused by the Iran war, haven't crushed us. Even when combined with capital flight, current account deficits and low foreign direct investment. My point is simple: let's not overdo the doom and gloom. Instead, let's turn this crisis into an opportunity. Yes, rather than chest-beating and ideological bashing, the current crisis should spur long-postponed reforms.

But first, let us look at the fundamentals. For fiscal year 2025-26, India's real GDP growth has come in at 7.7 percent, with the January-March quarter accelerating to 7.8 percent. This positions India as the fastest-growing major economy in the G20, even amid global headwinds including US tariffs, supply chain disruptions and West Asian conflicts. Manufacturing, trade, transport and financial services have shown strong gains, underscoring momentum from domestic demand, services exports and continuity in reforms.

Inflation, too, remains manageable. Retail inflation stood at 3.48 percent in April 2026, with food inflation at around 4.2 percent, well within the Reserve Bank of India's comfort zone. While wholesale price inflation has risen due to energy costs, the overall trajectory reflects prudent monetary policy and supply-side resilience.

Unemployment data further counters alarmist claims. The latest figures show the overall unemployment rate at 5.2 percent in April 2026, a modest uptick but still historically moderate. Rural and urban trends reflect stable labour force participation amid structural shifts toward formalisation. While challenges in job creation persist—particularly for the youth—macro indicators do not support claims of a job crisis.

Yes, we may be in for some harder times, with rising fuel, fertiliser and transportation costs, but once again, the situation is not as bad as prevalent not only in our immediate neighbourhood, but in many other parts of the world.

The genuine pressure points are identifiable and largely exogenous. An oil shock from West Asian conflicts has exposed India's heavy dependence on imports, with crude oil requirements at 85-90 percent. And, flashing danger signals, once more, are our relatively modest strategic stocks. We should have built larger buffers when oil prices were low, as China did with its massive reserves approaching 1.4 billion barrels.

It is also true that we did not adequately 'game' scenarios like disruptions in the Hormuz Strait in our economic planning. Though petrol and diesel prices were not lowered significantly when oil was cheap, they can only offset present subsidies up to a point. This has widened the current account deficit, exacerbated by foreign portfolio investor exits amid global volatility and subdued foreign indirect investment flows. The rupee has faced depreciation pressures, pushing up import bills.

Yet, a cheap rupee will attract foreign money when the market down-cycle reverses. And it will also boost our exports, especially in software and IT services. Let us not forget that it is this sector of the economy that supports our upwardly mobile middle classes. A cheap rupee augments our major economic advantage and increases labour arbitrage, even if it makes foreign travel or study abroad that much more unaffordable.

What matters, then, in the current debates on the Indian economy, is context. It is context that makes the Clinton quote much more intelligible, even turning it on its head. India, let us not forget, has navigated such cycles before, often emerging with strengthened fundamentals, as in 1991. What is more, we are by and large, an economy fuelled by domestic consumption and savings. Even if the latter declines and our dependence on Chinese imports grows, we are unlikely to return to times when we have to sell our family heirlooms—read: gold—as a recent fake report claimed.

The current brouhaha, therefore, risks degenerating into partisan theatre. Denigrating the ruling dispensation and calling for heads to roll, as if every macroeconomic tremor were proof of political bankruptcy, is not how a mature democracy functions.

What India requires is not mere or more handwringing. Instead, long-awaited reforms must be expedited: accelerated deregulation, a genuinely business-friendly environment, and targeted reforms, especially the end of what has come to be known as "tax terrorism". This includes retrospective taxing, unstable rules and business interests held hostage by enforcement officials.

Periods of stress have historically been India's reform whip. The current oil shock and capital flow reversals offer precisely such an opportunity. Now is the time to strengthen ties with Europe, friendly Gulf countries such as the UAE and others, efforts such as those Prime Minister Modi has consistently pursued.

But the elephant in the room remains the United States. We must mend and deepen this relationship with clear-eyed pragmatism and transactional realism, setting aside any self-righteous or sanctimonious posturing. A lighter compliance burden, faster dispute resolution, energy diversification and predictable policies will advance Garib Kalyan and Viksit Bharat more effectively than rhetorical warfare.

So-called experts who frame every data point as a referendum on the ruling party overlook India's deeper civilisational continuity: a remarkable capacity for synthesis, adaptation and democratic resilience that predates and will outlast any single administration. Yes, it is the economy, stupid. But every crisis is also an opportunity.

The middle, also the sensible, path lies in acknowledging vulnerabilities without panic-mongering. Similarly, we should celebrate real strengths without sycophancy. Acting decisively and moving forward with fiscal prudence and well-thought-out strategies is the need of the hour.

And you don't have to be a titled economist to understand that.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @MakrandParanspe)

THE MONTH GOD CLAIMED

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

DO we need a particular reason to remember Sri Krishna every day? Nevertheless, some calendar events are said to make the remembrance even more special. Krishna's actual *jayanti*, or advent anniversary, is on the Ashtami Tithi or eighth day of the Krishna Paksha, the dark fortnight of the moon in the month of Bhadrapada (August-September). This year, it will occur on Friday, September 4. But here's a sweet fact. Krishna's birthday is also observed every month on the eighth day of the moon's dark fortnight. This month it occurs today, on June 8. This remembrance is especially significant because it falls during Adhik Maas.

Adhik Maas or the 'extra month' comes by every thirty-two months, sixteen days and eight ghadis—a *ghadi* being a unit of twenty-four minutes. It is the 'leap' month that synchronises the lunar calendar, which has 354 days, with the solar calendar, which has 365. This year, it's between May 17 and June 15, which is why the festival dates after it have been pushed back.

The regular months of the Indian calendar have old-established names and powers. They are: Chaitra, Vaisakh, Jyestha, Asadh, Shravan, Bhadrapada, Ashvin, Kartik, Agrahayana, Paus, Magh and Phalgun.

It seems that with so much to remember already, nobody had the time to bother with the extra month. They called it Adhik Maas, the additional month, and that took care of that. But, goes the touching tale, the spirit of Adhik Maas minded very much. "I don't have a proper name," it mourned, "though I am the quickstep trod between the stately measures danced by the sun and the moon. But do I get any respect? No, I don't. Where are my feasts and festivals? Nor am I claimed by any deity. It's disheartening being the thirteenth month and showing up at different times of the year, every 32 months, 16 days and eight ghadis. I confuse and irritate people and they say things like, 'Oh no, it's the additional month again. Fasts and austerities, can't do this, can't do that. Adhik Maas is a bother and a bore.' I'm not unfair, I see their point of view, and I don't blame them. But I can't help feeling very low-spirited."

So, Adhik Maas took its tale of woe to Bhagavan Vishnu. It saluted him in his shrine and told him sadly, "I'm just the unwanted extra and that makes me an orphan."

Sri Hari understood how forlorn and bereft Adhik Maas felt. He said lovingly, "No, you belong to me. And I shall say so to the priests at Ujjain in their dreams. They are the ones who measure time and make the calendar." That's how Adhik Maas came to be called Purushottam Maas, or God's Month, and to feel at peace with eternity. And that's why observing Krishna Janmashtami in Adhik Maas is considered so special, not only because it happens after a long gap, but also because it acquired the name 'Purushottam Maas' from Hari himself.

EXPRESS

The tale of how Adhik Maas came to be called Purushottam Maas or God's month is quintessential in substantiating that any person—when in doubt—can safely confide in God. Divine appreciation, however, follows only when one contributes with good intentions and genuine personal effort

This spirit of caring and giving is recommended in daily life as the greatest *punya*, or merit, one can acquire during Adhik Maas. It's believed that any *daan* or giving that we do this month is magnified by extra merit. It could be *shramdaan*—giving our services to anyone who requires some thoughtful help, perhaps an elder who needs assistance with paperwork, medicine, transport or just a bit of company. It could be a friend or colleague who could use a spot of practical caring, a youngster who needs help with studies or a worthwhile community project that wants volunteers.

It could mean the regular *daan* that one associates with charity—the gift of food, clothes or money to a needy person. And—this is a special 'and' which costs nothing—it can mean putting some good energy into the world by smiling and greeting people cheerfully, saying 'please', 'sorry' and 'thank you' as a way of being. Good manners seem to be sorely lacking in today's troubled times, be it on social media, in politics or in everyday interactions. Whereas Adhik Maas inspires us to be nicer because it's believed to bestow divine appreciation on us when we contribute with good intentions and genuine personal effort, like the squirrel at Setu.

How may we observe Krishna Janmashtami during Adhik Maas, which is held to have deep spiritual significance? This is so because it enhances the practice of devotion, humility and right conduct more than just a ritual observance on the main festival would. Those who wish can fast all day and break their fast at sunset, as a good day for detoxing. Around evening or near midnight, the time of Krishna's advent, many people like to do a little puja—say prayers, offer *dhoop*, *deep*, *mala*, *tilak* and fruit or sweet *naivedhyam* to Krishna. If work hours don't permit or we're incapable of lighting even an agarbatti or tealight, let's remember Krishna sincerely in our hearts and speak to him in our minds; tell him our anxieties and ask for his protection. Tender-hearted Krishna is known to always respond, say believers, at the very least by making us feel relieved and peaceful that we have a friend we can safely confide in.

Perhaps this is the greatest unseen message of Adhik Maas, though it is in plain sight if we look—that we can talk to God. Adhik Maas did so and was heard. Surely, we may hope to be heard, too?

(Views are personal)
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MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Quiet citizenry

Ref: *Wars, tariffs, leaks* (Jun 7). Citizens remain complicit in this silence. We accept vague statements, ignore contradictions and move on. Demanding clarity requires sustained pressure—filing RTI applications, attending local meetings, questioning officials directly. Silence deepens when we permit it through our own indifference.
M Barathi, Bengaluru

Moral accountability

Resignation does not imply personal guilt; it signifies respect for democratic accountability and public trust. When leaders are insulated from responsibility, institutions suffer and citizens lose confidence in governance. Reviving the tradition of moral accountability would enhance public faith in government and uphold democratic values.
T Kailash Ditya, Hyderabad

Growth balance

Ref: *Marching ahead to a different beat* (Jun 7). The march forward of newer generations, overcoming challenges faced by them in their own way, is to be welcomed as society can't progress by using outdated solutions for problems in a modern world. The ideal scenario is not an outright rejection of the past, but a blend of both worlds.
N Rama Rao, email

Himalayan goodwill

Ref: *'No old baggage'* (Jun 7). The refreshing breeze from Nepal signals a promising new chapter in bilateral ties. India must reciprocate this goodwill with flexibility to rebuild enduring camaraderie.
A Thirugnanasambantham, Coimbatore

Youth's voice

Ref: *The revenge of the waiting room* (Jun 7). The first street protest staged by the nascent Cockroach Janta Party captured the imagination of the people. BJP's electoral victories and the predominance can't obscure the fact of growing frustration and anger among the youth for a host of reasons. A democratic government cannot be indifferent to the issues raised by the youth.
G David Milton, email

Eternal laugh

Ref: *Malayalis' face of laughter passes away* (Jun 7). A versatile comedian and accomplished actor, Salim Kumar brought joy and laughter to many through his memorable performances. Throughout his film career, he proved that humour is indeed the salt of life.
Kelath Gopakumar Menon, Thrissur

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi

Salim Kumar ji was a stalwart of the Malayalam film industry, a National Award winner who made millions laugh and moved us with his dramatic depth.

Aaditya Thackeray @AUThackeray

Today's era is one of technology and AI. Even though technology is meant for our convenience, cybercrimes nd new types of frauds are increasing rapidly.

Amit Malviya @amitmalviya

After the Delhi Liquor Excise scam, it is now Bengal's turn. The Excise Department altered policy and bottlers were extorted on every crate of liquor and beer.

EC asks BLOs to report suspect foreigners

Tells state chief election officers to focus on electors whose verification forms are not returned during SIR exercise

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Election Commission of India (ECI) has directed its election machinery across states and Union Territories to refer cases of suspected foreign nationals to competent authorities during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, according to detailed guidelines issued by the poll panel for the exercise.

In instructions circulated to Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) on May 14, the poll body had said Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) must forward cases involving suspected foreign nationals to authorities empowered under the Citizenship Act, 1955. Assistant EROs have also been authorised to exercise these powers independently for the purpose of the revision process.

The guidelines further outline procedures for electors whose enumeration forms are not returned during the verification exercise. In such cases, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are required to conduct local inquiries and record the probable reason for non-submission, including whether the voter is absent, has shifted residence, is deceased or is a duplicate entry. If neither of these is identified as the reason for being absent, such cases could be flagged as "suspected foreign national".

The move comes amid heightened political scrutiny of the SIR exercise. During preparations for a similar revision in Bihar last year, Election Commission officials had claimed that grassroots-level functionaries had identified individuals from Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar in the electoral database.

The Commission, however, did not release any figures or documentary evidence to substantiate the claims. Opposition parties had then accused the EC of using the exercise to selectively target voters perceived to be unsympathetic to the BJP and its allies.

The poll panel launched Phase III of the nationwide SIR on May 14, covering 36.73 crore electors across 16 states and three Union Territories. The revision is being carried out in a staggered manner from May 30 in Delhi, Odisha, Mizoram, Sikkim, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Telangana, Punjab, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Nagaland, Tripura, Chandigarh, and the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

More than 3.94 lakh BLOs have been deployed for door-to-door verification and are assisted by 3.42 lakh Booth Level Agents (BLAs) nominated by political parties.

The Commission said schedules for Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh would be announced later, taking into account weather conditions in snow-bound regions. Similar revision exercises have already been completed in several states, including Bihar, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat.

The combined voters' list of nine states and three UTs in Phase-II of the SIR was pruned by 10.2 per cent, with over 60 lakh dead voters removed from the electoral rolls. The voter base across the 12 states and UTs stood at more than 50.99 crore when Phase-II of SIR was announced by the Election Commission on October 27 of last year. Post the exercise, the voters' list stands at 45.81 crore, marking an overall decline of over 5.18 crore.

Move amid political scrutiny of poll roll revision

The move comes amid heightened political scrutiny of the SIR exercise. During preparations for a similar revision in Bihar last year, Election Commission officials had claimed that grassroots-level functionaries had identified individuals from Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar in the electoral database. The Commission, however, did not release any figures or documentary evidence to substantiate the claims.

INSIDER TRACK

A prescription for diplomacy

Venezuelan acting President Delcy Rodríguez may have arrived in India with energy cooperation as the top agenda item, but one discussion stood out during her meeting with PM Narendra Modi—affordable medicine. A regular visitor to India, Rodríguez was on her sixth trip and her first bilateral visit as acting President. While oil and energy talks grabbed attention, officials said she showed interest in India's pharmaceutical success story and ways to improve access to low-cost medicine in Venezuela. Modi suggested she closely study the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, which provides quality generic medicine through Janaushadhi Kendras. The scheme has emerged as one of the world's largest affordable healthcare initiatives, helping millions access medicine without burdening household budgets.

TMC's glam squad wobbles

The sheen may be wearing thin on Trinamool Congress's celebrity-packed parliamentary brigade. Buzz is a section of these high-profile MPs is increasingly restless, with whispers of a possible breakaway gathering momentum. With 28 Lok Sabha MPs, the Mamata Banerjee-led outfit has long boasted one of Parliament's most star-studded line-ups, featuring familiar names from Tollywood and beyond, including Shatrughan Sinha, Dev, Rachana Banerjee, Shatabdi Roy, Sayani Ghosh and June Malia. Now, insiders claim that nearly 20 MPs are exploring the possibility of seeking recognition from the Speaker as a separate group. Alarmed by the chatter, the leadership has switched to firefighting mode, with Abhishek Banerjee reportedly rushing to Delhi to stem the brewing revolt.

A fluent Odia moment

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw caught many by surprise during last week's media briefing on Cabinet decisions when he effortlessly switched to Odia while discussing an infra project in Odisha. The coastal highway connecting Rameshwar and Paradip was among the key projects the Cabinet cleared. Vaishnaw outlined the project in fluent Odia and even answered a journalist's question in the language before repeating his remarks in Hindi and English. The exchange drew appreciative attention in the briefing room. Those familiar with his administrative journey, however, knew the reason. Before entering politics, Vaishnaw served as an IAS officer in the Odisha cadre, where officers are trained in the state's language to engage more effectively with local communities and administration.

RJD spots political opening

The RJD is quietly pleased with the nomination of former Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar's son, Nishant Kumar, as the JD(U)-nominated and NDA-backed candidate to the Legislative Council. The satisfaction is political rather than personal. RJD leaders believe the move weakens one of the NDA's long-standing criticisms against the party—dynastic politics. RJD leaders argue the development exposes what they describe as double standards on the issue of family-based dynastic politics. For years, the BJP and JD(U) have targetted the RJD over the political prominence of the Yadav family. Party insiders say they now have fresh ammunition, which they may use aggressively when the political moment is right, turning a familiar attack back on their rivals.

Ministers Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Kishan Reddy and C R Patil in the same car

Less fuel, more chat

Carpooling appears to have found an unlikely set of champions—the Union Ministers. At the latest Cabinet meeting the PM chaired, several ministers arrived in shared vehicles alongside one or two colleagues. The arrangement was welcomed by many, who saw benefits beyond fuel savings. Ministers said the shared journeys offered a rare chance for informal talk before official discussions began. One minister remarked that such interactions are otherwise difficult to fit into packed schedules. Sources indicate the practice is likely to continue for some time, particularly amid concerns over fuel supplies and prices linked to the West Asia crisis. What began as a practical measure may also be helping strengthen informal coordination within the government.

Indonesia minister: Modi's visit to firm up Indo-Pacific partnership for two nations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

INDIA and Indonesia on Sunday reviewed the full spectrum of their expanding strategic partnership, with Indonesian Foreign Minister Sugiono expressing anticipation for PM Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Jakarta as part of a broader Indo-Pacific outreach that is also expected to include Australia and New Zealand.

Co-chairing the 8th India-Indonesia Joint Commission Meeting with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in New Delhi, Sugiono said Modi's visit would provide fresh momentum to bilateral ties at a time when both countries are seeking a larger role in shaping the Indo-Pacific strategic landscape.

"Looking forward to PM Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Jakarta. The visit will be an important opportunity to further deepen our cooperation and deliver tangible benefits for our peoples," Sugiono said.

Sources indicated that the Indonesia stop is expected to be part of a wider regional tour by Modi that will also take him to Australia and New Zealand, next month highlighting New Delhi's growing focus on strengthening partnerships across the Indo-Pacific.

The meeting reviewed cooperation across a broad range of sectors under the India-Indonesia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, including defence, maritime security, trade, digital connectivity, critical minerals, health, infrastructure and people-to-people exchanges.

EAM S Jaishankar with Indonesian Foreign Minister Sugiono on Sunday | PTI

"A pleasure to co-chair the 8th India–Indonesia Joint Commission Meeting alongside FM Sugiono. Our comprehensive strategic partnership has witnessed a strong growth in recent years," Jaishankar said.

Jaishankar said the two sides held "substantive discussions" on political, defence and security cooperation, maritime and shipping connectivity, pharmaceuticals, fertilisers, and critical minerals among others.

The discussions reflected the increasing strategic convergence between New Delhi and Jakarta. Since elevating ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership during Modi's 2018 visit to Indonesia, both countries have expanded defence cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

Not seeking 3rd-party role on India border issue: Nepal FM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

NEPAL Foreign Minister Shishir Khanal on Sunday sought to clarify Kathmandu's position on the long-running Kalapani-Lipulekh-Limpiyadhura border dispute with India, saying that his country is not seeking third-party mediation but is instead focused on substantiating its territorial claims through historical evidence.

Addressing a press conference at the Nepal Embassy in New Delhi, Khanal said the government of Prime Minister Balendra Shah remains committed to resolving the dispute through existing bilateral mechanisms with India.

"We want to solve our disputes through diplomatic processes. We just want to see if we can access some of the documents that might be in libraries or museums in the UK. Our position was not that we were asking for mediation," Khanal said. His remarks come days after Prime Minister Shah told Nepal's Parliament that Kathmandu was in contact with both the UK and China regarding the disputed trijunction area. The statement triggered political debate in Nepal and drew a response from the External Affairs Ministry, which reiterated that border issues between India and Nepal should be addressed through established bilateral channels and leave no scope for third-party intervention.

"The problems that existed when British India left the region still persist, so we believe Britain also has a role to play in this matter," Shah had earlier told Parliament.

The border issue resurfaced in April after India announced the resumption of the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra for 2026 through the Lipulekh Pass, a route claimed by Nepal as part of its sovereign territory.

"We have expressed our position through an official diplomatic note to both India and China. We have clearly said to both countries that the land belongs to us. That's been our historical claim," Khanal said.

Seeking to distinguish the ruling Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) from Nepal's traditional political establishment, Khanal said the Shah government represents a generational shift in Nepal's politics and intends to move bilateral relations beyond entrenched geopolitical narratives.

"We represent a completely new political reality in Nepal," Khanal said. "Our rise is driven by an extraordinary and historic mandate centred on uncompromising good governance, strict meritocracy and direct accountability. Because we are a new generation of leadership, we are absolutely unencumbered by the past."

The RSP emerged as Nepal's dominant political force following the May elections, which came after a youth-led political movement that toppled the government of former Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli amid widespread opposition to restrictions on Nepal's digital ecosystem in 2025.

Despite persistent disagreements, Khanal expressed confidence in resolving the dispute through dialogue.

Nepal FM Shisir Khanal

'Our govt represents a generational shift'

Seeking to distinguish the ruling Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) from Nepal's traditional political establishment, Khanal said the Shah government represents a generational shift in Nepal's politics and intends to move bilateral relations beyond entrenched geopolitical narratives. "We represent a completely new political reality in Nepal," Khanal said.

Youth in judiciary driving tech shift, must stay watchful of AI, says CJI

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY
@ New Delhi

YOUNG lawyers, judicial officers, youth and legal professionals are a positive force behind the judiciary's technological transformation, Chief Justice of India Surya Kant has said.

Addressing the Oxford Union on the theme 'Constitutional Promise to Digital Reality: Safeguarding Justice in the Age of AI and Technological Advancement', the CJI also underscored that technology can never substitute human judgement.

"The youth-in-law, I am using the word, are so adaptive in India, whether the district court judicial officer, the government lawyer, or even those who are assisting the corporate entities as legal advisors," CJI Kant—who is currently on a visit to the United Kingdom—said.

He noted that the adaptability of young professionals across the legal system has made the transition to digital courts, e-filing, and AI-assisted research smoother. "Their comfort with technology is encouraging, and it strengthens the institutional capacity of the judiciary to serve better," the CJI added.

The youth-in-law, I am using the word, are so adaptive in India, whether the district court judicial officer, the government lawyer, or even those who are assisting the corporate entities as legal advisors

Surya Kant, Chief Justice of India

However, he cautioned against over-reliance on technology. "AI and other tools must remain aids to decision-making. The conscience, discretion, and ethical reasoning of a judge cannot be coded into an algorithm," he said.

CJI Kant said the constitutional promise of justice in India requires that technological advancement be guided by safeguards. "In the age of AI, our duty is to ensure that digital reality aligns with constitutional values, not the other way around," he observed.

He highlighted that the judiciary's efforts to modernise court processes had succeeded because of the adaptability of young legal professionals, stating: "The youth-in-law I am using the word is so adaptive in India, whether the district court judicial officer, whether the government lawyer, and even those who are assisting the corporate entities as legal advisors. All these young brains are so adaptive that they have been a really encouraging source for the Indian judiciary to bring all these r formative changes," CJI Kant stressed.

Centre to manage highway lights using internet

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

TO enhance highway safety, energy efficiency and maintenance of street lightings, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) is set to roll out a centralised web-based street light monitoring system (CCMS).

The cloud-based platform will provide real-time monitoring and control of street lighting systems. It will also support automatic switching of lights, early fault detection, energy-saving verification and performance analytics.

According to the ministry, pilot projects have already been successfully implemented in Varanasi and Hyderabad, demonstrating the viability of the technology-driven monitoring framework. The MoRTH has now issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) and implementation framework for the CCMS, which is applicable to highway stretches managed by the ministry, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL).

'Pilot projects implemented in Varanasi, Hyderabad'

According to the ministry, pilot projects have already been successfully implemented in Varanasi and Hyderabad, demonstrating the viability of the technology-driven monitoring framework. The MoRTH has now issued an SoP and implementation framework for the CCMS, which is applicable to highways managed by the ministry, the NHAI, and NHIDCL.

The initiative follows directions issued during senior officers' meetings in the ministry, where the need for a unified monitoring mechanism was discussed.

Directions have also been issued to the officials in the concerned units of the ministry, NHIDCL, and NHAI to ensure implementation of and compliance with the SoP for all existing and under-implementation, including future, highway development projects.

According to the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) guidelines, lighting on national highways is provided only at certain points such as toll plaza areas, rest areas, truck lay-bys, bus bays, grade-separated structures, interchanges, flyovers, underpasses and overpasses. The scope of lighting in a project is decided based on the requirement assessed during the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) from safety and other technical considerations.

The officials said the new arrangement is expected to bring greater transparency, accountability and data-driven decision-making in the management of highway lighting assets across the country, besides helping in energy consumption and electrical parameters monitoring.

Under the system, the officials will be able to view the status of lighting assets through dashboards, which will also show the number of working and non-working street-lights in states, districts and corridors. The users will be able to submit feedback, which will be routed automatically to the concerned project authorities. To address technical issues, a three-tier escalation mechanism has also been put in place.

ALONG THE BORDER

Eight senior IPS officers of Gujarat will tour 16 villages along the India-Pakistan border on June 11 and 12 as part of an exercise to review border security and assess conditions in remote areas.

1 MAN BOOKED FOR RAPING 2 SISTERS IN PALGHAR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	40	30	Mumbai	33	29
Bhopal	38	28	Panaji	28	26
Jaipur	41	31	Patna	40	29
Amritsar	42	28	Lucknow	41	31
Chennai	37	30	Port Blair	31	28
Kolkata	37	29	Imphal	28	22
Srinagar	29	14	Chandigarh	40	27

Intelligence input and field-level assessments likely to be discussed • Interactions with forces and frontier communities a game-changer

Shah to evaluate security ahead of Amarnath Yatra

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah is scheduled to chair a security review meeting on Jammu and Kashmir here on Monday, with a focus on preparations for the annual Amarnath Yatra, sources said. The meeting comes less than a month before the commencement of the pilgrimage and is expected to assess the overall security situation in the Union Territory.

According to the sources, Shah will review the deployment of security forces, intelligence-sharing mechanisms, surveillance measures and contingency plans aimed at countering potential threats during the pilgrimage. The deliberations are also expected to cover coordination among security and civil agencies involved in managing the annual event.

J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha is likely to attend the meeting along with senior officials from the MHA, the Jammu and Kashmir administration, the Army, police and intelligence agencies. Among those expected to participate are the Chief Secretary, the DGP and other top officers responsible for security and administrative arrangements in the Union Territory.

The sources said the Home Minister is expected to take stock of the ground situation and review measures put in place to ensure that the pilgrimage is conducted without any disruption. Intelligence inputs and field-level assessments are also likely to be discussed as part of the comprehensive security review.

The Amarnath Yatra, one of the country's most significant annual pilgrimages, attracts thousands of devotees. Pilgrims undertake the journey to the Himalayan cave shrine through two routes - the traditional Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the shorter Baltal route in Ganderbal district. Given the region's difficult terrain and past security challenges, authorities undertake extensive preparations every year to safeguard pilgrims. Security arrangements typically include area domination exercises, route sanitisation, convoy protection and the deployment of advanced surveillance and monitoring systems.

A multi-layered security grid comprising Central Armed Police Forces, the Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police and intelligence agencies is usually put in place to secure the pilgrimage routes and base camps. The sources said Monday's meeting is expected to provide the final review of preparedness and ensure coordination among all stakeholders ahead of the yatra.

670 CAPF companies to be deployed for pilgrimage

The MHA has approved deployment of 670 companies of paramilitary forces for smooth conduct of the Amarnath Yatra. The forces will be deployed along Baltal and Pahalgam routes and the entire Srinagar-Jammu highway, which serves as the main transit route for pilgrims.

Home Minister's border visits strengthen morale

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah's visits to border regions and interactions with security personnel and remote frontier communities have a significant bearing on national security, according to political observers and security experts.

By personally visiting remote border posts, reviewing operational preparedness and interacting directly with personnel stationed in difficult terrains, Shah has conveyed a message that the dedication and sacrifices of the forces are valued at the highest levels of government. "Union Home Minister's visits to border regions have emerged as a significant source of motivation not only for security personnel but also for local communities residing in the strategically sensitive areas," said a BJP leader.

People living in border areas have viewed Shah's visits as a reassurance that they are not isolated from the mainstream of national progress. Many say they are increasingly being recognised as important stakeholders in the country's development journey and key contributors to security framework. Addressing personnel Lankamura outpost on the India-Bangladesh border in Tripura, Shah outlined the government's four-pronged border security strategy, emphasising the integration of advanced technology, strengthened security infrastructure, effective local administration and dedicated manpower. "The Modi government is continuously equipping the BSF with cutting-edge technologies, security infrastructure and training, thereby enhancing its border vigilance capabilities," he said during his interaction.

Shah visited India–Pakistan border in Bhuj, Gujarat. During his engagements, he reiterated the importance of creating a robust security ecosystem involving citizens, civil administration, police, military forces and the BSF. During another interaction, he highlighted the cooperation extended by the West Bengal government in providing 121 hectares of land in strategically important Siliguri corridor for BSF.

At border locations in Rajasthan, including the Sanchur Border outpost in Bikaner, Shah interacted with BSF personnel over high tea and stressed the importance of vigilance. He urged security personnel to monitor unusual demographic changes within villages located up to 50 km from the International Border and alert local authorities regarding illegal activities.

Emphasis on civil administration role in security

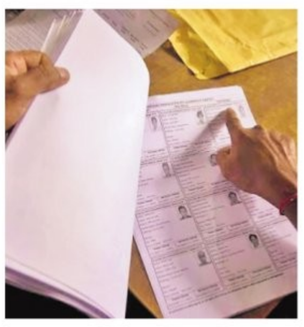
Shah emphasised that citizens, civil administration, police, the military and the BSF together would establish a comprehensive four-sided security grid capable of ensuring complete territorial security. He urged security personnel to monitor unusual demographic changes.

SRINAGAR DIARY

FAYAZ WANI
Our correspondent in Jammu and Kashmir
fayazwani123@gmail.com

Prosecution if employees deny Census duties

The J&K government has warned the employees that refusal, negligence, or dereliction of Census duties during ongoing Census-2027 operations may attract criminal prosecution, including imprisonment of up to three years. The House Listing Operation of Census 2027 has started across the UT from June 1 and will continue till June 30. The duties assigned to Census functionaries are statutory in nature and must be performed within the prescribed timelines. The circular warned that under Section 11 of the Census Act, 1948, any erring Census Officer (Enumerator or Supervisor) shall be liable to imprisonment up to three years and a fine up to ₹1,000.



Eco-friendly themed garden developed

An eco-friendly themed garden has been developed at Srinagar's Polo Ground Park using discarded and unused material. The initiative undertaken by the Floriculture Department aims to transform waste into attractive installations while enhancing the park's aesthetic appeal. According to Director Floriculture Kashmir, Mathoora Masoom, the project was conceptualised to give a new lease of life to old materials lying unused in departmental gardens and government offices. Various discarded items have been creatively repurposed into decorative structures and planters, turning waste into valuable assets. The garden features unique attractions.

Boost to population as fertility rate rises

J&K has registered a notable rise in its total fertility rate (TFR) after years of decline, according to the National Family Health Survey-6 (NFHS-6) 2023–24. The survey reveals that the TFR increased from 1.4 children per woman in NFHS-5 (2019–21) to 1.8 children per woman in NFHS-6 (2023–24), marking an increase of 0.4 children per woman over the period. The latest figures mark a reversal of the declining trend observed in the UT over the past decade. According to the Jammu and Kashmir Economic Survey 2024–25, the TFR stood at 1.6 in NFHS-4 (2015–16) before falling to 1.4 in NFHS-5.

HOMICIDE

Court sentence may disqualify Bihar MLA

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

THE threat of losing his assembly membership looms large over BJP MLA and former minister Raju Kumar Singh from the Sahebganj constituency in Bihar following his conviction in a culpable homicide case.

Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court on Saturday convicted him of culpable homicide in a celebratory firing death case inside his farmhouse in south Delhi's Fatehpur Beri on New Year's Eve in 2018. The firing had led to the death of a 45-year-old woman. The court convicted the lawmaker under Section 304 (II) (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of the IPC and Section 30 of the Arms Act (punishment for contravention of licence or rule).

On Tuesday, the court will hear arguments on the quantum of sentence before announcing the punishment to be awarded to the MLA. If the MLA receives a sentence of more than two years, he will lose his legislative membership. The court has ordered him to be taken into custody.

The maximum punishment under which the legislator had been held guilty is seven years.

U'khand disaster response to tunnel rescue wins applaud at BRICS meet

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

UTTARAKHAND, one of India's most disaster-prone Himalayan states, has earned international recognition for its evolving disaster management framework, with its Silkyara tunnel rescue operation emerging as a standout example at the BRICS Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group meeting.

The second technical meeting of the BRICS Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, held in Puri, Odisha, from June 3-5, under India's chairmanship, brought together senior officials, technical experts and policymakers from 11 BRICS member and partner countries, including Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Indonesia.

The three-day deliberations focused on strengthening disaster risk reduction, resilient infrastructure, community-based early warning systems, forecast-based rapid response mechanisms and sustainable financing for disaster management. Against this backdrop, Uttarakhand's model drew wide appreciation for combining scientific planning, institutional coordination and field-level response.

Representing the state, SDRF Commandant Arpan Yaduvanshi, IPS, and ULMMC Director Shantanu Sarkar presented Uttarakhand's initiatives in disaster preparedness, risk reduction, capacity building, technological innovation and emergency response.

SILKYARA OP

1. State's complex Himalayan terrain and its exposure to calamities were highlighted
2. Multi-agency coordination mechanism and early warning systems stressed
3. Silkyara tunnel rescue cited as key example of effective response

BJP plans 3rd RS name in MP, Cong on guard

ABURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

THE elections to three Rajya Sabha seats in Madhya Pradesh, is set to become intriguing, with the ruling BJP likely to field its candidate on the third seat. The possibility of the BJP fielding its third candidate emergd after a late Sunday night meeting at CM Mohan Yadav's residence.

The ruling party is likely to announce its candidate for the third seat on Monday, the last day of filing nomintaions. Sources said the candidate may either an SC or ST.

The Congress candidate and ex-MP Meenakshi Natrajan is slated to file her papers on Monday. According to political sources, following the latest development about BJP likely to field a candidate for the third state, necessitating an election on June 18, the Congress may shift its 60-plus MLAs to Telangana or Karnataka.

Senior Congress leaders from the two southern states ruled by the party are likely to fly to Bhopal on Monday to take care of the changing political developments in MP, sources added.

In the 230-member Assembly, the Congress is assured of support of its 61 MLAs, while the BJP has 164 MLAs.

Nathwani entry in J'khand RS election makes Cong jittery

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

THE Rajya Sabha elections in Jharkhand have taken an interesting turn with the entry of former RS member and businessman Parimal Nathwani into the fray as an independent candidate, making the Congress jittery.

On Saturday, Nathwani purchased his nomination papers for Rajya Sabha polls, and met Chief Minister Hemant Soren, sparking speculations. Sources said Nathwani left for Delhi late on Saturday night following his meeting with Soren, who made it clear that his party JMM would not act as a proposer for him. The BJP has not yet announced its candidate, keeping political speculations alive. According to BJP sources, party MLAs along with those of its allies—JD(U), LJP and AJSU—have been told to act as proposers for Nathwani who is scheduled to file his nomination on Monday as an independent. With BJP support, Nathwani's victory appears certain, while the challenge for Congress' Pranav Jha has intensified.

After initial differences, INDIA bloc allies JMM and Congress on Sunday reached a consensus on Sunday to contest one seat each. The deadlock ended after a meeting of AICC observers Bhupesh Baghel and Ajay Sharma with Soren. The JMM has announced senior party MLA Baidyanath Ram as its candidate. Baghel said, "Both candidates of the INDIA bloc will win."

A candidate must secure a minimum of 28 first-preference votes. In the Assembly, the INDIA bloc has 56 members —34 from JMM, 16 from the Congress, four from RJD and two from CPI(ML) Liberation. The NDA has 24 MLAs—21 from BJP and one each from LJP (RV), AJSU and JD(U).

C'garh population at 3.15 cr, literacy a concern

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

AS Chhattisgarh prepares for its next major census phase scheduled for early 2027, estimated data from the Directorate of Economics and Statistics has revealed a stark and deeply concerning reality: over 1 crore 4 lakh people in the state are still completely illiterate.

As of the March 2027 estimates, the state's total population is projected to reach approximately 3,15,12,600. Out of this, the literate population is estimated to stand at 2,10,60,921, leaving a staggering 1,04,51,679 individuals who can neither read nor write. Bridging this gap might remain a significant challenge for the state government and the education department in the coming years.

Literacy is seen as a key indicator of socioeconomic development, indicating the educational standards of a country. Officially, a "literate" person is anyone who can read and write their own name in any language and comprehend written text.

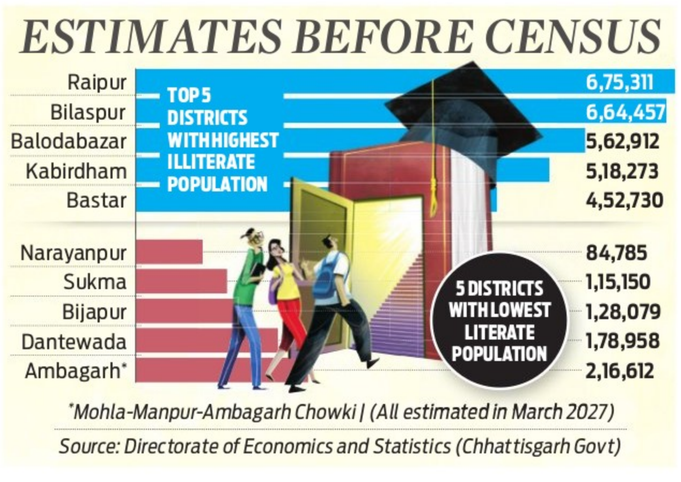
The statistical breakdown exposes a gender disparity across the state of Chhattisgarh. While the male literacy rate is relatively robust at 83.01 per cent, female literacy languishes at just 68.16 per cent.

An irony exists in the capital Raipur, which reflects the state's highest overall literacy rate at 86.46 per cent. Yet, due to its high population density, it also houses the highest absolute number of illiterate individuals in the entire state, with 6,75,311 people completely lacking basic alphabet knowledge.

Senior academician Jawahar Surisetti opined that Chhattisgarh's future growth will depend not only on its natural resources but also on how effectively it converts its people into educated, empowered contributors to society.

"The statistic that Chhattisgarh may have over one crore illiterate citizens by 2027is not merely an education challenge; it is a development emergency. Illiteracy today is not just the inability to read and write—it is exclusion from opportunities, technology, healthcare, financial services, and informed citizenship," contended Surisetti, an advisor to government and an author.

The Chhattisgarh government launched a literacy project in September 2024 to teach the basics of developing reading and comprehension skills to ten lakh illiterates in the state, with around one lakh volunteer teachers selected by the State Literacy Mission to run the literacy centres. ULLAS is the New India Literacy Programme 2020 to empower adults aged 15 and above.



Moving in fast lane: Supercar junkies move with families for the love of road

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE Supercars route group, a community of supercar and sports cars freaks, aims to spread the concept of self-driving tours, which enable one to spend quality time on the wheel with their families and drive across the country exploring heritage and culture.

The group owing V-6 engines, roaring high-performance machines, wishes to drive down from Mumbai to Delhi and meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Rashtrapati Bhavan if permitted. Their travel plan also includes the Chambal area in Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Jammu and Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh.

Speaking with this newspaper, the Supercar Route founder Zain Nadeem Rais, who is building a community that brings together performance cars, said, "The whole idea is to promote self-driving tours with your family rather than travelling by flights and going sightseeing. We want to drive from Mumbai to Delhi on the new Mumbai and Delhi expressway which will open soon." "We are trying to showcase India as a global luxury destination and project our country as a hub for upscale travel, world-class hospitality, and exclusive experiences," Rais added.

The group comprises around 100 members, including investment bankers and construction firm owners, while a few others have sold their businesses and are now leading retired lives, as most of them are in the age group of 40 to 60 years. "Most of the group members have bought their supercars two to three years back only, and we want to inspire the youth; if you work hard, you can also buy this high-performance machine, which ranges between ₹2.50 crore and ₹13 crore," he says.

Plan to criss-cross the country on four wheels

The group owing V-6 engines, roaring high-performance machines, wishes to drive down from Mumbai to Delhi and meet PM Narendra Modi and visit the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Their travel plan also includes the Chambal area in Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, J&K and Arunachal Pradesh.

10 dead
after migrant boat carrying about 60 people sinks off Malta; 48 rescued, says Italian coast guard

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	24	12	SNY	Los Angeles	23	17	SNY
Colombo	31	27	SNY	Melbourne	17	11	LC
Dhaka	35	29	SNY	Moscow	23	12	SNY
Dubai	34	29	SNY	New York	28	18	SNY
Houston	28	24	TDS	Singapore	32	28	TDS
Istanbul	27	19	SNY	Toronto	24	14	SNY
London	18	12	SNY	Washington	31	17	SNY

100 DAYS LATER, THE WAR GOES ON...

Trump seeks to keep Lebanon conflict separate from broader Iran peace negotiations

US downs Iranian drones near Hormuz as Pak launches fresh diplomatic outreach to Tehran

Trump says sanctions relief and access to frozen assets can come only after a deal

FROM STRIKES TO STALEMATE

FEB 28 (DAY 1)
US and Israel launch strikes on Iranian nuclear and military targets, triggering the war

MAR 2 (DAY 3)
Iran retaliates with missile and drone attacks. Tensions spike in the Strait of Hormuz as shipping is disrupted

MAR 9 (DAY 10)
Israeli strikes hit Iranian energy facilities as the conflict widens and oil markets react

MID-MARCH
Hezbollah joins the conflict, opening a Lebanon front. Israel responds with airstrikes and later ground operations

APR 8 (DAY 40)
A US-brokered ceasefire between Washington and Tehran takes effect, but fighting involving Israel and Hezbollah continues

EARLY APRIL
Disputes over the Strait of Hormuz, shipping restrictions and sanctions hamper peace efforts

APRIL 12 (DAY 44)
Peace talks collapse. Trump announces a naval blockade targeting Iranian ports and vessels linked to Tehran

MAY
Repeated mediation attempts fail to secure a comprehensive settlement as missile, drone and naval incidents continue

JUNE 2 (DAY 95)
Fresh diplomacy gathers pace amid warnings that the conflict could drag on through the summer

JUNE 7 (DAY 100)
Israel strikes Beirut after Hezbollah attacks. US-Iran talks remain deadlocked as the war enters its 100th day

TEHRAN

THE United States said it shot down a pair of Iranian drones threatening the Strait of Hormuz, as the West Asia war reached its 100th day on Sunday with no end in sight.

The milestone came as mediator Pakistan delivered a message to Iran's supreme leader following weeks of indirect negotiations punctuated by tit-for-tat threats and sporadic exchanges of fire.

Efforts to turn a ceasefire into a lasting settlement have repeatedly stalled, while the war has rattled global markets and increased domestic pressure on US President Donald Trump ahead of midterm elections. The uncertainty is weighing on everyday Iranians too, with fitness trainer Elaheh from Ahvaz telling AFP: "I really have gone numb."

Lebanese soldiers stand guard as first responders inspect damage at the site of an Israeli airstrike in a residential building in Beirut's southern suburbs | AFP

Pakistan mediation

However, there were signs of fresh diplomatic efforts over the weekend, with Pakistan's interior minister Mohsin Naqvi visiting Tehran. Naqvi said upon his arrival Saturday that he would deliver a "special letter" from Pakistani army chief to Iran's supreme leader, as well as a message from the prime minister "regarding the current situation", according to Iranian state television. "I think it's a very important message," said Naqvi, a frequent visitor to Iran.

Trump rules out asset thaw

Meanwhile, Donald Trump said in an interview broadcast Sunday that he will not unfreeze Iranian assets before reaching an agreement with Tehran.

Asked if he would unfreeze Iranian assets or ease sanctions before a deal, Trump said no. "That comes after," he told *NBC*. Iran has demanded access to billions of dollars in frozen assets.

According to a source close to the matter, the US Treasury is considering the possibility that Iran's assets could be tapped to compensate Gulf states for damages caused by Iranian strikes. *AFP*

Festival gunfire injures 12, two critical in Ohio

OHIO

GUNFIRE erupted Saturday near a busy street festival in Ohio, wounding at least 12 people and sending some eventgoers scrambling for cover while others rushed to help the victims.

No suspects were in custody hours afterward, Toledo Deputy Police Chief Joe Heffernan said, and officials urged people who were at the festival to come forward with any photos or videos on their phones for possible leads.

The shooting happened near the Old West End Festival, an annual gathering of live music and home tours.

Heffernan said it appeared that at least two people fired weapons and they were "probably shooting at each other."

Two of the victims were in critical condition, Heffernan added. The ages of the victims ranged from 14 to 61, with most of them in their early 20s. "I am deeply concerned about the situation in Toledo tonight," Ohio Gov Mike DeWine said in a statement. "Summer festivals should be safe spaces for families to spend time together without fear of violence." Multiple videos posted to social media showed people running amid the sound of gunshots and emergency officials tending to others who appeared wounded.

Fire Chief Allison Armstrong said it was difficult to get to the hospital due to closed roads and traffic from people leaving the festival, but emergency responders were able to transport all patients from the scene within an hour. Kevin Berry was sitting in the neighborhood arboretum listening to live music with friends when he heard a handful of gunshots ring out. "Everybody hit the deck," he said.

Toledo police investigates a shooting that left 12 people injured at the Old West End Festival at the Agnes Reynolds Jackson Arboretum in Toledo, Ohio | AP

When Berry looked back up, he saw a gun being tossed to the ground less than 50 feet (15 meters) away from him. Officers who were already on site for the festival responded immediately. Berry, who has medical training and served in the Navy, walked around looking for anyone who might need help and saw at least five people with gunshot wounds.

"The folks who were hit were spread out around the arboretum area," he said.

The Old West End Festival is a two-day celebration in Toledo's historic district that includes live music, food vendors, home tours and shopping. Berry described it as the "kick-off to Toledo's summer festival season." George Kral, safety director for the city, said officials were discussing with organizers whether it would continue through the weekend. *AP*

Israel strikes Beirut after Hezbollah attack, warns Tyre residents to leave

BEIRUT

ISRAEL's military struck Beirut's southern suburbs on Sunday, hitting apartments in two buildings after saying it had intercepted projectiles launched by Hezbollah into Israeli territory.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said the army had struck a militant command centre in Beirut's Dahiyeh district in response to Hezbollah fire. The Lebanese state-run National News Agency said two apartments in two buildings were targeted. Air raid sirens sounded on the Israeli side of the border earlier on Sunday, with the military saying two projectiles from Lebanon were intercepted. It later said it had dismantled the launchers used in the attack.

Israel later issued an evacuation warning for most of the southern Lebanese city of Tyre and its surroundings. Hezbollah, which rejected a proposed conditional truce announced earlier this week in Washington, demanded a full Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory

Trump urges 'surgical' strikes

Meanwhile, Donald Trump, in an interview broadcast on Sunday, called for more "surgical" attacks on Hezbollah while stressing that Lebanon should not be linked to negotiations over an Iran deal.

"I'd like to see a more surgical attack on Hezbollah. *AFP*

1 killed, 5 injured in Israel shooting spree

TEL AVIV: A Palestinian citizen of Israel was killed by police after carrying out a shooting rampage across several towns in central Israel on Sunday, killing a 55-year-old reservist and wounding five others. Police said the attacker, a man in his 20s from the Arab town of Taybeh, opened fire at multiple locations near the occupied West Bank. An alleged accomplice was later arrested. The attack triggered lockdowns and heightened security fears. The motive was not immediately known.

Russian drones kill four, damage Chernobyl nuclear storage facility

KYIV

RUSSIA fired waves of drones and other munitions at Ukraine on Sunday, killing at least five people and damaging a nuclear storage facility in the Chernobyl exclusion zone, Ukrainian officials said. Radiation levels at the facility remained within normal limits following the attack, although its fuel reception building was "partially destroyed", according to Ukraine's Energoatom nuclear energy operator.

Moscow and Kyiv have intensified drone strikes on each other in recent months, as US-led diplomatic efforts to end the war -- now in its fifth year -- remain stalled and sidetracked by the conflict in the West Asia. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky arrived in Britain on Sunday for talks with his allies on how to pressure Russia to end the fighting, after Russia's Vladimir Putin rejected direct peace talks with his Ukrainian counterpart.

A heavily damaged nuclear storage facility in the Chernobyl exclusion zone following Russian attacks | AFP

"A 'shahed' hit one of the buildings of the Centralized Spent Fuel Storage Facility," Zelensky said in a post on X, referring to the Iranian-designed "Shahed" drones that Russia fires at Ukraine on a nightly basis. "As of now, there are no readings exceeding normal background radiation levels. But there is certainly an increase in Russia's brazenness, which long ago went off the charts," he added. *AFP*

B'desh couple get death for 8-yr-old's rape and murder

DHAKA

A court in Bangladesh on Sunday sentenced a couple to death for the rape and murder of an eight-year-old girl, delivering its verdict after just five days of hearings in what prosecutors said was the fastest murder trial in the country's history.

The Dhaka Metropolitan Child Repression Prevention Tribunal handed down the sentence 19 days after the incident, which triggered nationwide outrage. Judge Masrur Salekin sentenced Sohel Rana and his wife, Swapnaa Khatun, to death and imposed fines of Taka 5 lakh and Taka 2 lakh, respectively. The court ordered that the compensation be paid to the victim's family.

The court said that if the fines were not paid, the convicts' movable and immovable properties could be confiscated and auctioned to recover the amount. Prosecutors said the proceedings were completed in five days after the court received the police charge sheet, making it the fastest murder trial in Bangladesh's history.

The girl's father welcomed the verdict and hoped for its swift implementation. Special Public Prosecutor Azizur Rahman Dulu said the family had received justice. Under Bangladeshi law, death sentences must be reviewed and confirmed by the High Court before execution. *PTI*

Taiwan reports standoff with Chinese ships after Beijing's maritime ops

TAIPEI

TAIWAN's coast guard said on Sunday its vessels were in a "standoff" with Chinese ships involved in an operation in waters southeast of the island democracy. Chinese state media reported on Saturday that the "law enforcement operation" was in response to talks between Japan and the Philippines to draw a boundary in waters to the east of Taiwan. China, which asserts Taiwan is part of its territory, called the talks "illegal" and has claimed exclusive control over the waters.

Taiwan's coast guard said its vessels had "expelled" four Chinese ships from the island's "restricted waters", and were now 33 nautical miles (61 kilometres) southeast of the island's southernmost tip.

"Vessels from both sides are still in a standoff," the Taiwanese coast guard said in a statement. The coast guard said that it "strongly condemns China's use of the Japan-Philippines negotiations as a pretext to conceal its attempts to create the illusion of 'jurisdiction'". Taiwan has deployed seven patrol vessels to help with surveillance of the Chinese ships.

Tokyo and Manila said last month they would start formal talks "to delimit the maritime boundary" of an economic zone and continental shelf between them, angering Beijing. Beijing on Saturday deployed maritime police for a special law enforcement operation in waters east of Taiwan, state news agency Xinhua said. *AFP*

ASIA MATTERS

TWO RUSSIANS ARRESTED IN HASHISH BUST

Authorities arrested two Russian nationals after a high-speed chase on Bali, accusing them of trying to smuggle 7.8 kg of hashish from Thailand. The woman, 52, and a 40-year-old man were detained on Friday after meeting on the resort island, according to the National Narcotics Agency. **ENS**

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड
(एक महारत्न कंपनी)

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd **www.coalindia.in** / respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in** In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**".

GOVT. OF ODISHA, OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS DIVISION, NUAPADA
Email - rd_nuapada@rediffmail.com
BID IDENTIFICATION NO. RWNPD-04 (Online) of 2026-27
"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE

25001/353/2627: Bid documents consisting of Work, Estimate Cost, Cost of tender Paper, EMD / BID security, Time of Completion, Class of Contractor and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in Govt. website i.e. **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

1. Name of the Work :- Building works in the District of Nuapada as mentioned in DTCN
2. Total No. of Works :- 06 Nos.
3. Estimated Cost :- Rs. 88.07 to 136.73 lakhs (Building)
4. Period of Completion :- 09 (Nine) Calendar Month
5. Other Details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Bid	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Nuapada	RWNPD-04/2026-27 (Online)	09.06.2026 at 10.00 AM	17.06.2026 up to 5.00 P.M.	16.06.2026 upto 05.00 PM	18.06.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later on

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

OIPR- 25001/25050/1/26-27/0004 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Nuapada**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the following original property documents pertaining to the property owned by **M/s. Stonne Bridge Constructions Private Limited**, represented by its Directors **Mr. Naveen Kumar** and **Mrs. Aswini Sathish**, have been lost and are not traceable despite diligent search:

1.Registered Absolute Sale Deed dated **25/03/2004**, registered as Document No. **YAN-1-20607-2003-04** in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Yelahanka, Bengaluru.

2.Conversion Order bearing No. **ALN (NAY) SR:162/2008-09** dated **18/12/2008**, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District. Conversion Intimation Letter, Conversion Fee Payment Receipts & Conversion Sketch.

The above documents relate to the immovable property described below:

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing **Converted Survey No. 29/2**, measuring **1 Acre**, situated at **Doddabettahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District**, (converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose vide Conversion Order No. **ALN (NAY) SR:162/2008-09 dated 18/12/2008**, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore), together with all rights, easements, appurtenances and interests attached thereto, and bounded as follows:

East: Land in Survey Nos. 38 & 39
West: Land in Survey Nos. 33 & 34
North: Land in Survey No. 29/3
South: Road

Any person who finds or comes into possession of the above original documents, or has any claim, objection, lien, charge, mortgage, encumbrance, right, title or interest in respect of the said property, is requested to contact the undersigned and provide details within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice.

The finder of the documents is requested to return the same to the following address:

S. MURTHY
SURIYA LAW ASSOCIATES
AdvocatesNo. 303, Motati Meadows, Nagavarapalya, Old Madras Road, Bengaluru-560093. Mobile: 98450 87191.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Karthik Krishnaswamy** S/o. Krishnaswamy K, residing at No. 34, New Cross Road, Chikkamavalli, Bangalore - 560 004, is intending to Purchase the Northern Portion of Property bearing **Site No. 1399**, situated at Banashankari I Stage, 2nd Block, Bengaluru, now this property comes within the limits of Bengaluru West City Corporation Ward No. 164-Vidyapeeta, New E- PID No., 4064335094, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South on the Eastern Side 28 feet & Western Side 32 feet in all measuring 900 Square feet, with building there on and bounded on East by : Site No. 1398, West by : Site No. 1400 & 1406, North by : Road & South by : Remaining portion of same property allotted to the share of T. Balakrishna Naidu from T. G. Sunitha, T. G. Lalitha, R. Babitha & V. Shakunthala W/o. Late Gunashekar T. G., and her childern Karthik S & Manoj S.

Persons having any claim, objections etc. in respect of the said sale transaction pertaining to said property may lodge the same with documentary evidence, with the undersigned and also with my Client mentioned above, **within 5 days** from the date of publication of this Notice. Otherwise my client will proceed with the transcation treating that there are no claims or objections.

(B.R. Viswanath) Advocate,
No. 14/8, 1st Floor, Jain Temple Street, V.V. Puram, Bangalore-4,
Ph : 22425606 (M):98450 34560
Place:Bangalore Date:06.06.2026

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.

OA No. 424 / 2025

BETWEEN: STATE BANK OF INDIA, SME Centre, Banasawadi Bengaluru ... **APPLICANT**

AND: M/s. AEROMARINE GLOBAL LOGISTICS ... DEFENDANT

To, **DEFENDANT: M/s. AEROMARINE GLOBAL LOGISTICS**, No. 102, 5th Main, East of NGEF Layout, Kasturi Nagar, Bengaluru-560043. Represented by its Proprietor, Sri. Ajit Ramesh

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DRT (PROCEDURE) RULE 1996

1) WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the Defendant for recovery of Rs.30,98,791/- (Rupees thirty lakh ninety eight thousand seven hundred and ninety one only) and also pay the future interest @ 15.25% per annum with monthly rests from 21.11.2024 to till the date of realization of entire amount along with cost of this proceedings and for the reliefs.

2) You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days of the service of the summons or on **21/07/2026** at **10:30 A.M** in the forenoon in person or pleader/advocate duly instructed has to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

3) Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day mentioned herein before, the proceedings will heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 05-06-2026

By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-I, Bangalore.

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.

O.A. No. 1230/2024

Canara Bank, DVG Road (Gandhi Bazar) Branch, Bengaluru. ... **APPLICANT**

-V/s-

M/s. Manaharsha Furniture's & Fixtures ... DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS
ADDRESS FOR SERVICE OF SUMMONS

1. M/s. Manaharsha Furniture's & Fixtures, No. 25, Arekempanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Wilson Garden, Bangalore 560 027. Rep by its Directors. a. Mr. M. Parthasarathy, b. Mr. Satish C.

2. Mr. M. Parthasarathy, aged about 49 years, S/o. Late B.R. Parthasarathy Residing at No. 32&32A GF 3 Sumukha residency 3rd Main, 7th cross, Ramanjaneya Nagar Uttarahalli, Bangalore South Subramanayapura, Bengaluru-560061.

3. Mr. Satish C, aged about 34 Years, S/o. Mr. Chikkasiddaiah, Residing at No.4, 2nd Main New Doctors Colony, Soudamini layout Konanakunte Post, Bengaluru-560062

UNDER SECTION 23 (VIII) OF RDDB AND FI ACT 1993
SUMMONS

Whereas the applicant bank has instituted a an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Bank and Financial Institution Act 1993 against defendants for the recovery of Rs. 37,53,594.83/- (Rupees Thirty Seven Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Four paisa Eighty Three Only) jointly, severally and personally the present and future interest at the rate of 9.45% per annum and plus 2% Penal interest per annum compounded monthly from the date of this application till the date of recovery of the certified amount.

You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days of the service of this summons or on **06/08/2026** at **10:30 A.M.** in persons or through an Advocate or duly Authorized agent duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not granted. Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 07-04-2026

By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore.

Advocate for Applicant Bank
V.S. SHAM SUNDAR
No. 31, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross, Tata Silk Farm, Thyagarajnagar, Bengaluru-560 070
Phone 9886318087

PUBLIC NOTICE
FOR LOST DOCUMENT

My Client **Smt. MANJULA. M,** Resident of Arekere Village, Begur Hobli, B.G. Road, Bangalore-560 076 lost the **original Sale Deed No.5373/1974-75, Dated : 26-09-1974** in respect of the Property bearing Khaneshumari No. 17, **Arekere Village,** Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, executed by A. Muni Reddy & A. Raghurama Reddy in favour of G. Muni Reddy.

If any person/s found the said sale deed please hand over the same to the under signed. If anyone has already carried out any transaction or any transaction is in the process of being carried out using the missing document, kindly inform the undersigned party immediately.

(SOMANNA), Advocate
9, 12th 'A' Cross, 16th Main, Opp: MICO Layout PS, BTM Layout 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560 076.
Ph. No. 98453 17766, 94496 70358

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at large that our client is in process to buy with respect to agricultural property bearing **New Sy.No. 298, old Sy. No. 10/1, measuring in an extent of 4 acres 13 guntas, attached with 0-20 guntas of 'A' Kharab land, situated at Biskur Village, Kuduru Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Bengaluru South District**, hereinafter referred as the **"Schedule Property"** to free hold lands with all area tube well, boundary walls, connections, easements, privileges, facilities, etc. collectively hereinafter called as the Schedule Property from **1) Smt. FAHEEM UNNISA,** aged about 64 years, W/o late Anwar Sab, **2) Sri. MADAR SAB,** aged about 78 years, S/o late Jabbar Sab, 3) **Sri. ABDUL RAZAK @ RAZAK,** aged about 66 years, S/o late Jabbar Sab, all are residing at Biskuru, Ramanagara - 562131, who claims to be the sole & absolute owners and are in physical possession of the entire Schedule Property. The said owners have also assured to our client that the Schedule Property has clear and marketable title and is free from all sorts of encumbrances and they have full rights to sell the Schedule Property and receive the full consideration in their own names. Any person(s) or entity(s) including but not limited to any bank(s), financial institution(s), an individual, non-banking financial institutions, firms, authority(s), government, semi government offices, family members, relatives, legal heirs having any objection or asserting any benefit, claim or right or title or interest of any nature whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property and/or any part thereof by way of, including but not limited to, sale, mortgage, lease, lien, license, tenancy, gift, release, coparcenary's rights, possession, transfer, exchange, pledge, charges, trust, succession, easement, bequeath, assignment, attachment, right of way, lispendens, partnership, family arrangement, settlement, maintenance decree or order of any court of law, development rights, consumption, allotment, booking, power of attorney, or any liabilities, demand or any encumbrances howsoever or otherwise including by way of a memorandum of understanding, letter of intent, deed, security, custody of any original documents, or has executed any transactions or documents (registered or unregistered), contract and/or an agreement with the owners or predecessors in title of the Schedule Property is hereby required to intimate / submit / file their objections in writing to the undersigned within **15 (Fifteen)** days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their rights, claims, interest, share, demand, if any, with all original supporting documents and proofs, failing which any transaction/ transfer with respect to the Schedule Property shall be done without reference to such claim and all claims, if any, and all such claims and demands shall be treated as knowingly abandoned, surrendered, relinquished, released, completely waived and not enforceable/binding on our client and/or an impediment to the title of the owners and the same shall be treated as have clear and marketable title without any further reference. For the avoidance of doubt, receipt of any claims by the undersigned, will not be deemed and/or presumed to mean acceptance of such claims by our client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of agricultural property bearing **New Sy.No. 298, old Sy.No. 10/1, measuring in an extent of 4 acres 13 guntas, attached with 0-20 guntas of 'A' Kharab land, situated at Biskur Village, Kuduru Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Bengaluru South District** and bounded on:

East by : Road/Lake/Sy. No.40, West by : Property bearing Sy. No. 8/7, 9/1 and 9/2, of Abdul Pyaru Sab, Doddaiah, North by : Property bearing Sy. No. 299 of Sheik Gayak and Khaleel, South by : Property bearing Sy. No. 12/1 of Jayamma, Ganganna, Halla, Sadanandappa.

(N Shiva Kumar) Advocate / Partner
Shiva & Shiva, Advocates,
No: 11, Shiva Krupa, 2nd Floor, 19th Main, Rajajinagar, 2nd Block, Bangalore -560 010.
Ph: **080-23323131**
Place : Bangalore Date : 06/06/2026

QuoteExpress
THE ONLY CONSTANT IN THE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY IS CHANGE › MITCHELL KAPOR

₹43,000 cr pulled out in the first week of June amid a shift in global capital towards tech and AI-linked opportunities overseas and weakness in the rupee

How NRIs can invest in Indian equity market

Unlike resident investors, NRIs face tighter curbs; In cash market, only delivery-based transactions are allowed

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

IN a major shift in the policy to attract investment from Indians living outside the country, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised the limits for investment by NRIs and OCIs in equity instruments traded on the stock market without Sebi registration. The same facility is being extended to all individual Persons Resident Outside India (PROIs) on a par with NRIs and OCIs.

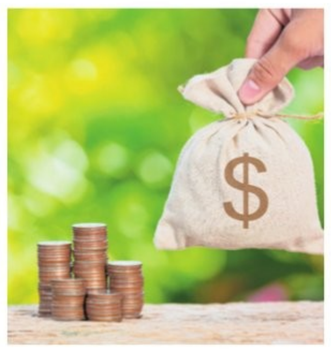
PROIs is an overall category of individuals (as well as companies), who don't fulfil the criteria of being an Indian resident. NRIs, OCIs, or individuals holding foreign citizenship.

As per the revised rules, PROIs will be permitted to invest in equity instruments of listed Indian firms through the Portfolio Investment Scheme, which was available only to NRIs/OCIs. The investment limit will be increased for an individual PROI under this scheme from 5% to 10% in any company, with an overall investment limit for all individual PROIs to 24%, from current 10%. The new rules will simplify onboarding and reduce compliance requirements.

How can NRIs invest in India

Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) are permitted to invest in most Indian securities. However, the process comes with additional documentation, account requirements and regulatory restrictions that resident investors do not face.

OCI cardholders are treated on a par with NRIs for investment purposes and enjoy the same permissions and exemptions. This means both NRIs and OCIs can invest in shares,



government securities, domestic mutual funds, ETFs, listed bonds and debentures, infra debt funds, PSU bonds and certain bank-issued debt instruments. They are allowed to participate in equity derivatives, subject to conditions.

The first step for an NRI or OCI investor is setting up banking and market infra. An investor needs an NRE (Non-Resident External) or NRO (Non-Resident Ordinary) bank account, a demat and a trading account. Those who wish to invest in shares via exchanges need a Portfolio Investment Scheme (PIS) permission.

The choice between NRE and NRO accounts is key. Investments made via NRE accounts allow free repatriation of capital and income, while NRO accounts are used for income earned in India and carry limits on repatriation. Interest earned in NRE accounts is exempt from Indian tax, whereas interest earned in NRO accounts is taxable.

Restrictions

Unlike resident investors, NRIs face tighter curbs in stock trading. In cash market, only delivery-based transactions are allowed. Intraday trading and short selling are prohibited. An NRI must take delivery of shares purchased and can sell shares already held in the demat account. While investment in futures and options is permitted on a non-repatriation basis, trading in currency derivatives is not allowed.

Another limitation relates to transferability of shares. Shares bought under PIS route have to be sold via exchanges and can't be freely transferred via private arrangements or gifted without prior RBI nod, except in certain cases such as transfers to relatives or charitable trusts. MFs offer a relatively simpler route. NRIs and OCIs can invest in Indian MFs after completing KYC formalities and can do so on both repatriable and non-repatriable bases.

IN CONVERSATION

DV MANJUNATHA DONTHI
Founder chairman, Emmvee Group

'Will make wafers, ingots at ₹5,500 cr giga plant soon at Devanahalli'

BENGALURU-headquartered green energy major Emmvee Group, a pioneer in solar energy having launched the country's first solar water heaters way back in 1992 under Solarizer label that became the largest solar water heater not only in India but also in Europe, is on an expansion spree, investing ₹5,500 crore in a greenfield gigafactory at Devanahalli in Bengaluru. In an interview with **Benn Kochuveedan** of *TNIE*, group founder chairman **DV Manjunatha Donthi**, tells the new plant, spread across 100 acres is 5 times bigger than the present facility, will make it the largest integrated player. **Edited Excerpts**:

How has the supply-chain disruptions following the Iran war hit you? How much of raw materials are imported?
As of now, our industry in general and our operations in particular have not impacted due to the war. Most sourcing is from China and there is no issue from there. Currently, our import dependency for wafers, ignots and glass, is about 35%. Earlier, we used to import all cells from China. Now, domestic cell manufacturing has picked up. We've a 2.9 Gw of cells capacity. We're nearly trebling the cell output to 8.90 Gw by March 2027. That apart, we are raising our modules capacity to 16.3 Gw by December from 10.3 Gw now.

What is the capex going into the expansion and how are you funding it?
We're investing ₹5,500 crore into these projects, spread across a little over 100 acres. We are zero debt company, so 40% or ₹2,200 crore of the capex is equity-funded and the entire debt of ₹3,300 crore is funded by the Ireda.

When you began you used to ship your entire production, mainly to Europe. Now what's revenue break-up?
Yes, you are right when we started off in 2006, solar power was not popular here while it was hugely popular in Europe. So we were shipping out our entire production till 2014 to Europe, mostly Germany. But now we don't ship out a single module or cell. After government set solar energy goals, our market just exploded.

We can very well have scale and even pricing power to beat the Chinese if we are fully backward integrated but we require the kind of protection that China offers to their companies. What we require is the government support towards risk mitigation

Given the very long warranty of 30 years that the industry offers, how one distinguishes itself and make the market? Based on the warranty claim ratio? What's your claim ratio?
Yes, primarily the claim ratio is something that makes a company superior. While Chinese panels and cells also offer 30 years warranty, they've higher claim ratio than most others. Our claim ratio is as low as 0.008, which is one of the lowest world-wide.

Though domestic production almost fully meets panel demand, that's achieved on imported materials. Why we don't have ecosystem developed even after so many years?
Yes, earlier we're importing all solar panels but now domestic production almost fully meets demand but as you said rightly with mostly imported materials. Backward integration is yet to take off in our country. But let me assure you if all goes well, from 2028 Emmvee should be filling that missing link as we are on course to begin manufacturing the critical ingots and silicon wafers.

You're one of the sectoral pioneers. What prevented you from going in for full backward integration all these years?
See China operates on a different level. The kind of incentives and protection that they offer to their manufacturers nobody else can match. We can very well have scale and even pricing power to beat the Chinese if we are fully backward integrated but we need the kind of protection that that China offers to their companies. What we need is government support towards risks mitigation. Even sans any fiscal incentives we can match Chinese pricing where there is no duty whatsoever.

MONEY-WISE

EDUCATION FOR FINANCIAL HEALTH

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM
writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

WHEN my daughter was born, a quarter century ago, people told me I should buy gold and jewellery for her. I said 'I will give her financial education which is better than gold or jewellery! Financial education leading to financial health is the best "jewellery" you can give your daughter—and here's why it outshines any physical asset, especially in contexts like India where gold jewellery has long symbolised security for daughters.

1. Jewellery is a one-time asset, financial literacy is a lifelong skill that multiplies gold or diamonds feel tangible and culturally significant—they can be worn, sold in crises, or passed down. But their value is limited: prices fluctuate, pieces can be lost, stolen, or forced to be sold at a loss, and they don't generate passive income unless liquidated. Financial education teaches budgeting, investing, compounding, debt avoidance, and asset building. A daughter who understands mutual funds, SIPs, index investing, or basic compounding (e.g. ₹5,000/month at 12% over 30 years grows to crores) creates real, growing wealth that works for her indefinitely. Habits formed early make her 3x more likely to save regularly and far less prone to debt traps.

2. It delivers true independence and protection—Women often face unique challenges: career breaks for marriage/childbearing, wage gaps, longer lifespans (needing more retirement savings), and potential financial dependence in difficult relationships. Jewellery alone can't negotiate a salary, spot a scam, or fund an exit from a toxic situation. Financial literacy is "a passport to independence". It reduces vulnerability to manipulation, empowers informed choices in partners/careers, and counters outdated stereotypes where girls are taught budgeting while boys learn investing.

In India, where adult financial literacy hovers around 27%, gender gap is even wider in households. Teaching daughters turns them into confident decision-makers who build generational wealth instead of relying on traditional safety nets.

It improves overall health, relationships, and peace of mind.Financial stress is a top cause of anxiety, health issues, and even strained family ties. A financially healthy daughter makes better life decisions (studies abroad link parental financial education to healthier adult relationships and behaviours). She avoids lifestyle inflation, builds emergency funds, and invests wisely — leading to lower debt, higher confidence, and the freedom to pursue passions without fear. Jewellery might sparkle for a day; this gift creates a foundation she stands on for life.

It's the legacy gift in a changing world. Tradition has value—gold has preserved wealth across generations. But the smartest approach is both: give jewellery as a starter asset plus the knowledge to grow it (e.g., understanding when to sell/reinvest or combine with equity). In today's digital economy (UPI, MFs, stocks accessible via apps), ignorance is the real risk.

MONEY MATTERS

HOW TO MAKE SENSE OF AI IMPACT ON INDIAN FIRMS

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

THERE is FOMO in India's financial markets, driven by companies advancing artificial intelligence. The market is focused on AI products and hardware: the most valuable company in the US is Nvidia; in Europe, the Netherlands' semiconductor equipment maker ASML; and in Asia Pacific, Taiwan's TSMC. That sums up the mood, which is less interested in the secular profit-growth story India stood for over two decades.

India's rising household savings are, for now, giving a cushion against downside in stock prices. The unrelenting selloff by foreigners is not essentially because things have gone worse in India. Foreign portfolio investors are chasing faster profit growth elsewhere. However, Indian shares still have to wrest back their earnings-growth story to stay in contention for investor money. Although India was not an important player in the early excitement around AI and related stories, it is certain that India will be a significant user of AI and related technologies, and Indian companies will eventually profit from consistently adopting the efficiencies these technologies deliver.

A secular 10-15% profit growth is possible with rapid adoption of AI across business processes. The most nimble adopters are sectors such as IT services and banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI). A reading of quarterly conference call transcripts gives a peek into how businesses are adopting and adapting AI to expand margins.

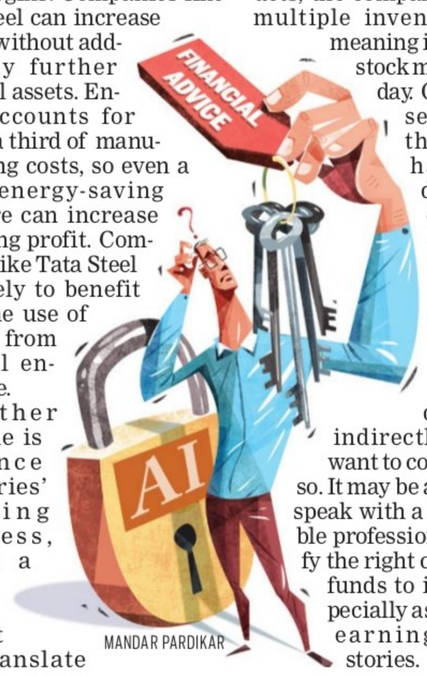
There is hope in the midst of all the gloom and doom about India. The stories below show companies using AI and related technologies to boost output, optimise costs and expand margins.

For example, in the banking sector, there is a visible reduction in the cost of risk. ICICI Bank announced in the latest quarterly filings a net non-performing assets ratio of 0.33%, the lowest in years. It reportedly said that a significant amount of credit scoring is AI-based, which has induced efficiencies. So while AI may not yet be a new revenue stream, the cost of risk is trending down.

In the manufacturing sector, physical AI is reducing plant operating costs, boosting margins. Companies like Tata Steel can increase output without adding any further physical assets. Energy accounts for nearly a third of manufacturing costs, so even a small energy-saving measure can increase operating profit. Companies like Tata Steel are likely to benefit from the use of AI and from optimal energy use.

Another example is Reliance Industries' refining business, where a 0.5% yield shift can translate into significant profits. AI models analyse live data on temperature, pressure, and crude quality to optimise the refining process. They help produce the right mix of crude grades imported to make high-margin fuel, such as aviation turbine fuel, rather than low-margin products like kerosene or diesel. They also predict equipment failure well in advance. An unplanned shutdown can cost anywhere from Rs 50 crore to Rs 100 crore, so avoiding such an event could boost profit margins. Reliance Industries operates the Jamnagar complex in Gujarat, the world's largest single-site refining hub, with a capacity of 1.24 million barrels per day.

Another example from the manufacturing sector is Asian Paints, the largest paints company. It has a large distribution scale, and the company uses AI to predict demand at the pin code level. That allows them to manage output every day and reduce inventory. By producing need-based products, the company can make multiple inventory turns, meaning it replenishes stock more often per day. Over the past several years, the company has reduced distribution costs to 3% of sales from 30-40%.



MANDAR PARDIKAR

If you are a regular investor in large-cap companies directly or indirectly, you may want to continue doing so. It may be a good idea to speak with a knowledgeable professional to identify the right companies or funds to invest in, especially as AI reshapes earnings growth stories.

Nestlé plans 'penetration-led growth'

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

NESTLÉ INDIA will focus on expanding household penetration, accelerating technology adoption and deepening consumer engagement to drive its next phase of growth, Chairman and MD Manish Tiwary said in his first letter to shareholders, laying out a long-term vision for the country's largest food company.

In the letter accompanying the company's FY26 annual report, Tiwary outlined four strategic pillars that will shape Nestlé India's future growth trajectory — consumer-centricity, penetration-led volume growth, continued investment behind brands and capabilities, and technology-enabled execution. The roadmap comes less than a year after he took over the leadership of the company.

At the heart of the strategy is a sharper focus on consumers. Tiwary said businesses often begin with financial objectives and subsequently tailor consumer offerings around them, whereas Nestlé intends to reverse that approach by allowing consumer needs and insights to drive business decisions. He described consumer-centricity as a discipline that requires companies to continually question assumptions and adapt to changing preferences.

Nestlé India paid ₹1,025 cr licence fee to parent in FY26

Nestlé India paid ₹1,024.5 crore as licence fees to its parent, Nestlé S.A., during 2025-26, equivalent to about 4.4% of its net sales of ₹23,071.5 crore, as per the company's latest annual report. Including ₹102.5 crore withheld as tax on the payment, total outflow towards licence fees stood at about ₹1,127 crore, accounting for 4.9% of net sales for the year.

The company also plans to pursue what Tiwary termed "penetration-led volume growth", reflecting Nestlé India's ambition to expand its consumer base and increase consumption occasions rather than relying solely on pricing-led growth. While established brands such as MAGGI, NESCAFÉ, KITKAT, NAN and CERELAC will remain key growth engines, Nestlé is also looking to build newer categories and businesses to broaden its addressable market.

A major part of that expansion strategy involves strengthening the company's out-of-home consumption business. Tiwary highlighted the growth of Nestlé Professional's Retail ONE initiative, which has crossed 1,000 kiosks across locations such as educational institutions, hospitals and airports.

Consumer confidence weakens across India as inflation concerns rise in May

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

CONSUMER confidence weakened across both urban and rural India in May, with households turning more cautious about economic conditions, employment prospects and discretionary spending even as inflation expectations moved higher, as per the latest surveys released by the Reserve Bank.

The RBI's Urban Consumer Confidence Survey (UCCS) and Rural Consumer Confidence Survey (RCCS) showed a broad-based deterioration in sentiment during May, suggesting that despite easing headline inflation and supportive monetary policy, households remain concerned about price pressures and their impact on finances.

Urban consumer confidence

fell for the third consecutive survey round, with the Current Situation Index (CSI) dropping to 90.7 in May from 95.7 in March. The Future Expectations Index (FEI), while remaining above the neutral 100 mark, slipped to 118.7 from 120.2, its lowest level since September 2023.

Rural sentiment also weakened. The rural CSI declined to 95.2 from 98.0 in March, while the FEI fell sharply to 119.3 from 125.1, reflecting weaker expectations across most parameters. Although future sentiment remains optimistic, the decline points to growing caution among rural households as well. A common thread running through both surveys is the resurgence in inflation concerns.

The RBI's separate Inflation Expectations Survey of Households showed urban households raising their median inflation perception to 7.8% in May from 7.2% in March. Their inflation expectations for the next three months and one year ahead climbed to 9.3% each, marking increases of 80 basis points and 50 basis points, respectively. Rural households also reported rising inflation concerns.

Iran's WC team blasts US visa row on arrival in Mexico

Iran's World Cup squad landed in Mexico on Sunday under the shadow of a bitter diplomatic row, after the United States — in open military conflict with Tehran — refused to issue visas for some team support staff. Iran coach Amir Ghalenoei complained on arrival at Tijuana airport that "we should have been here last week because a 12-hour time difference needs two weeks of adjusting."

Mover & shaker of football world: Pimenta's story

The 53-year-old, who manages Haaland among many other star players, is a trailblazer regarded as one of the first female football 'super-agents'. **Swaroop Swaminathan** caught up with her on the sidelines of Norway Chess event to talk about her journey & more...

RAFAELA Pimenta instantly lights up the room with her generous smile. Her life has taken her from working for the Brazilian government to the corridors of power in the world's most popular sport.

These days, she wants to see youngsters off drugs, off roblox and off WhatsApp hate groups. It's one of the reasons why she decided to join hands with Erling Haaland to invest in chess. But, first and foremost, Pimenta, the Norwegian forward's agent, wants to address the rampant discrimination she still sees in football. Even after working her way up the ladder for the last three decades. Even in 2026. So, as the world's most influential football men, both on and off the field, gather in the US, Canada and Mexico for the biggest sporting event on the planet, the most powerful woman in the game today has a message to the footballing community. "Men will want to marry women," she tells this daily. "They will want women to have their kids. But no, you cannot do football. Honestly, I couldn't care less at this point."

Rafaela Pimenta with Erling Haaland's father, Alfie | MICHAL WALUSZA / NORWAY CHESS

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It's depressing that football is still dealing with issues like sexism and patriarchy but it's why voices like Pimenta's carry extra weightage. In an industry built by men for men and dominated by men, she is an outlier, trying to hold the mirror.

"It's really male dominated and it was even worse when I started," she says. "I don't know if it got better or if it was because I got into a certain position that people will not say it to my face any more. It's difficult for me to judge but it got easier for me. What I hope is that it gets easier for all women and that's one of the reasons for me to be here. "There are many men in my field that are conscious that women can do the job but they use the fact that we are women as a way to try and imbalance us, make us feel weak. I think it's also a game to push us back. What I hope is that women will not care for this abuse and that we can keep holding our positions we achieved and we also push forward."

The discrimination she receives these days is across multiple levels. "I'm not only a woman but I'm also an immigrant (her agency is based in Monaco) from what people call a third-world country," the 53-year-old points out. That adds many layers to 'what are you doing here?' She illustrates this with an example. "When my opponents (competitors or other agents) compete for a player, they will say 'but she's a woman, she's Latin, she's from Brazil, she doesn't know what she's saying.'"

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She was drawn to law from a young age. So majoring in the subject at the University of Sao Paulo before working in the Fernando Henrique Cardoso government in the country of her birth was a natural career path. What wasn't natural, though, was what happened after. During a charity match as a way to celebrate the founding of a new club in Sao Paulo state, she bumped into Mino Raiola. The Italian-Dutch businessman, one of the OG super-agents in the game, struck up an understanding with Pimenta. They kept in touch before the former Pizzeria worker got Pimenta into his agency.

EXPRESS EXCLUSIVE

When Raiola passed away in 2022, it was assumed that the clientele he had built up in the game over the last two decades would leave the company he had built. But the lawyer-turned agent, who had already built up a lot of trust with players and their families, kept the naysayers at bay. When she's asked about Raiola, she smiles. "It's a bit of a dynamic where you complement each other," she says. "It's a team; you see what I don't and I see what you don't. Also, I know that I don't need to worry about everything because there are a few things that you have to do in this dynamic. At the end of the day, you can always rearrange how you work but the friendship, the laughter, the stories, the memories... this is what we leave with."

Raiola had a particular way of doing business. "The one man show agent," as Pimenta tells. "Times are very different (now). Mino was the time of the one-man show agent. The one that says 'it's me' and that's what players expect. Today, football is much more complex and it would not be realistic to think one person can do it all. On the pitch, off the pitch, performance, recovery, sponsors, social media, transfers... I think today, players look for agents who are able to provide a support system, a team around them."

****

At the first ever 48-team World Cup, multiple players from Pimenta's Agency will be on show beginning June 11. In terms of sheer popularity alone, there will be none greater than Erling. What's that like? "It's a dream come true," Pimenta, who recently joined Women in Football, an Advocacy Group, as a non-executive director, says. "It's a dream because he fits the way I think people should work. He's honest, focused, genuine, always attentive... what can you want more? This is a blessing. I usually say that our players are boring. In this company, you don't find the crazy, wild ones."

A few months ago, Pimenta and the Haalands decided to expand 'our horizons'. That's how they invested in Total Chess, a new product from the founders of Norway Chess (it's why Pimenta and Alfie, Erling's father, were in situ during one of the rounds at Norway Chess last week). Why chess? "This is a joint adventure," she says. "This is a big project for all of us and we're deeply involved. I always say put your mouth where your money is. If you believe in it, go invest. We believe in it so much. It's a part of our portfolios because we really think this can be huge and so much more popular than it is today. It brings one more sport as an alternative for kids and young adults.

"Instead of roblox, or dealing with drugs or taking part in WhatsApp hate group or whatever... hey, it's fine if you don't like football or basketball. May be just like total chess. And if they do, it's one less kid doing a stupid thing." When the conversation shifts back to the prejudice and the challenges of being a woman in a male-dominated industry, she says: "Women can work in any areas... as long as we are given the same chances."

AMERICAN DREAM

WITH THE FIFA WORLD CUP KNOCKING ON THE DOOR, TNIE TAKES A LOOK AT EACH GROUP IN A FOUR-PART SERIES, STARTING TODAY.

GROUP A

- Mexico (World No 15)
- South Africa (World No 60)
- Korea (World No 25)
- Czech Republic (World No 41)

GIVEN their home advantage, Mexico will be expected to challenge for the top spot along with Korea. In Edson Alvarez, striker **Raul Jimenez** and goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa, they have plenty of experience and they'll have ambitions to go as far as possible. Ochoa, if he features (he's down the pecking order), will become first goalkeeper to feature in six WC finals. Korea, meanwhile, will be looking to spoil their party. The onus will be on captain Son Heung-min to lift the team. Son, who has faced growing questions about his faltering form, scored twice in the team's friendly against Trinidad and Tobago on May 31. Meanwhile, striker Patrik Schick, who scored 16 goals in 28 Bundesliga games last season, will be hoping to power Czech Republic. The playmaking duty will largely rest on Lyon midfielder Pavel Sulc with 11 goals in Ligue 1 last season. South Africa, meanwhile, will be making their first appearance since hosting the tournament in 2010. They'll be relying on captain and goalkeeper Ronwen Williams and Burnley striker Lyle Foster to inspire the team.

GROUP B

- Canada (World No 30)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina (World No 65),
- Qatar (World No 55)
- Switzerland (World No 19)

WITH the backing of home fans, co-hosts Canada, who'll be taking part in their third World Cup, will be dreaming big. Star full-back Alphonso Davies is likely out of the team's opener against Bosnia but he'll be intent on making an impact. However, Switzerland will be the team to beat as they boast some elite names. Led by **Granit Xhaka**, who'll be appearing in the global showpiece event for the fourth time, the Swiss, a close-knit side, have all the experience and firepower to rise to the occasion. Bosnia, meanwhile, will be making just their second appearance at the big stage. Led by Edin Dzeko and 18-year-old winger Kerim Alajbegovic, they'll be hoping to cause a few upsets. Qatar will also be taking part in their second World Cup. Striker Almoez Ali and winger Akram Afif will be the men to keep an eye on.

GROUP C

- Brazil (World No 6)
- Morocco (World No 8)
- Haiti (World No 83)
- Scotland (World No 43)

FIVE-TIME champions Brazil have been a pale shadow of their former selves in the last five editions. They boast a strong squad and the fans will be hopeful that they can play to their potential. In defence, they have the likes of Marquinhos, Gabriel and Bremer. And they also boast one of the strongest attacks with Raphinha, **Vinicius Junior** in the team. Neymar, racing to be fit for the event, is doubtful but if he regains his fitness, it'll be a massive boost for the Selecao. Following their historic campaign last time around — first African team to reach WC semis, Morocco will be gunning for yet another big run. Influential right back Achraf Hakimi has been sidelined with a thigh injury and faces a race to be ready. Hakimi was also late for Morocco's Africa Cup campaign but returned in time to help the team for the knockout stage. Brahim Diaz, who was the star of the Africa Cup of Nations, will be hoping to lift the team yet again. Scotland will be looking to upset the two high-ranked sides and they're more than capable of doing the same. They boast many experienced players in John McGinn, Andrew Robertson, Scott McTominay. Haiti, meanwhile, will be playing in the event for the first time in 52 years.

Top 24 teams will qualify while eight best third-placed teams will be part of 32-team KO stage.

Alexander Zverev poses with the trophy after winning the men's final at Court Phillipe-Chatrier in Paris on Sunday | AP

EXPRESS READ

Himanshu edges Parth to clinch T4 nat'l trials

DEHRADUN: Himanshu Dhillon of Haryana clinched a thrilling win over Maharashtra's Parth Rakesh Mane in the men's 10m air rifle final in the T4 national selection trials here. Himanshu ended with 252.2 points, finishing .1 ahead of Parth. Delhi's Parth Makhija took bronze. In the women's air rifle, Uttar Pradesh's Deeksha Vaishya put up an impressive show to edge Ashi Chouksey by 1.2, finishing with a tally of 252.7.

Animesh wins silver in 200m in Taipei City

TAIPEI CITY: National record holder Animesh Kujur finished second in the men's 200m with the fourth fastest time of career at the New Taipei City Athletics Open 2026 here on Sunday. The 23-year-old Indian, whose national record stands at 20.32 seconds, clocked a solid 20.47seconds. Animesh has also run 20.40 seconds and 20.45 seconds last year, and thus his effort on Sunday was his fourth fastest time.

Heena Rajgor shines as India keep up happy run

AHMEDABAD: Gujarat's Heena Rajgor led India's gold medal rush as the hosts extended their lead on the table on the penultimate day of the inaugural World Yogasana Championships here. India stood at the top of the medals tally with 50 medals, including 40 gold, eight silver and two bronze. Japan added two gold to go up to three and 10 overall and they are second on the table, while Singapore are third with six medals.

WT20 WC launched at Waterloo bridge

LONDON: The 2026 Women's T20 World Cup, scheduled to begin in England on June 12, was launched at the Waterloo Bridge here brought together all the 12 team captains. "This event is another expression of the ICC's commitment and belief linked to the agenda of building a more inclusive, global game," ICC chair Jay Shah said while speaking at the event. India will begin their campaign against Pakistan on June 14.

Alexander conquers French Open

AGENCIES @ Paris

ALEXANDER Zverev finally secured his maiden Grand Slam title with a dramatic five-set victory over Italy's Flavio Cobolli in the French Open final on Sunday. The second seed became the first German man to win a Major tournament since Boris Becker at the 1996 Australian Open with a 6-1, 4-6, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-1 win after four hours and 16 minutes on Court Philippe Chatrier.

It was Zverev's fourth Grand Slam final and second at Roland Garros after some heartbreaking near misses in his career. Cobolli, the 10th seed, was bidding to become the first Italian man to win the French Open in 50 years. The 24-year-old had never even played a Slam semi-final before, let alone a final, after his last-four opponent Matteo Arnaldi withdrew from the tournament through illness. Both players appeared to struggle with nerves at various points in the match, especially Cobolli during an error-strewn first set.

PATH TO VICTORY

1st rd: bt B Bonzi 6-3, 6-4, 6-2
2nd rd: bt T Machac 6-4, 6-2, 6-2
3rd rd: bt Q Halys 6-4, 6-3, 5-7, 6-2
4th rd: bt J de Jong 7-6 (3), 6-4, 6-1
QF: bt R Jodar 7-6 (3), 6-1, 6-3
SF: bt J Mensik 7-5, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3
F: bt FCobolli 6-1, 4-6, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-1

But Zverev's greater experience showed in a deciding set that was far tenser than the scoreline suggested, as he managed to get over the line.

The 29-year-old was handed a golden opportunity to break his Grand Slam duck by the injury-enforced absence of reigning champion Carlos Alcaraz and surprise early exits for Jannik Sinner and Novak Djokovic.

The World No 3 was not always in control, making 54 unforced errors, but did enough to finally shed the tag of being one of the best players to have never won a major. Zverev had previously also lost in six Slam quarter-finals and seven semi-finals, alongside his three final defeats. The most agonising miss of all was his first major final when he blew a two-set lead and failed to serve for the championship against Dominic Thiem at the 2020 US Open.

The now-retired Thiem was watching on from the stands at Roland Garros as Zverev belatedly put the memories of that match to bed six years later.

Cobolli made a nervy start and appeared to be struggling to deal with the occasion as the first set quickly got away from him in 39 minutes, making 16 unforced errors. He managed to settle into the match with three successive holds of serve in the second set and then made his move out of nowhere to break in the seventh game.

Now, finally it's a happy end. We have been losers at times... but at the end of the day we are Grand Slam champions now and that's what counts.

— Alexander Zverev, World No. 3

F1: High five for Antonelli

AGENCIES @ Monaco

KIMI Antonelli's rise to the top of Formula 1 continued in bizarre circumstances as the 19-year-old Mercedes driver won a much-delayed Monaco Grand Prix on Sunday.

Antonelli was on course for victory with 10 laps remaining when the race was red-flagged after parts of the asphalt broke away and two cars crashed in quick succession, one of them third-placed Charles Leclerc.

After the race resumed from a standing start, Antonelli took his fifth Grand Prix win in a row and extended his already vast standings lead. He's the youngest F1 winner in Monaco. "Thank you so much guys, the car was a beast today," he told the Mercedes team.

Ferrari's Lewis Hamilton crossed the line second and Alpine's Pierre Gasly third. Red Bull's Isack Hadjar was moved up to third due to a penalty for Gasly. Antonelli's Mercedes teammate George Russell missed the points for the second race running.

DREAM START

Suthar feels at home on debut

GOMESH S @ Chennai

TEST debuts are tricky. These are moments cricketers dream and toil for years, and when they come, it is not always easy to grab the chance and play like they belong. However, Manav Suthar grabbed the opportunity with both hands to make it a memorable outing. The 23-year-old, who was handed a India Test cap against Afghanistan on Saturday, was unplayable on Day 2, returning with an impressive haul of three wickets.

After a steady cameo with the bat, the left-arm spinner made the cricketing fraternity sit up and watch from the moment he let go off the red cherry for the first time on Sunday. The revolutions were there. The drift was there. But then came the turn and bounce. For those who hadn't seen him till then, it was a revelation. For those who had seen, played alongside and followed Suthar, it was a validation. That he is in his element. Over the last two and a half years, Suthar has been that one spinner who excited every one in the Indian cricket ecosystem. He had spent years, bowling the volume of overs preparing for this and anyone who saw him for the first time, knew he had the goods. The left-arm spinner got the call-up for the Duleep Trophy in 2024 (not the zonal format) and impressed the selectors. The road to that was a truckload of overs sent down in TNCA senior division league and CoE camp.

India's Manav Suthar celebrates a wicket on Day 2 on Sunday | BCCI

SCOREBOARD

Ind 1st innings: (O/n: 368) Gill c Zazai b Saleem 126, Pant c Omarzai b Shahidi 81, Jurel b Saleem 19, Suthar c Zazai b Saleem 28, Siraj b Saleem 22, Washington n.o 52, Kuldeep n.o 9; **Extras** (b 4, lb 13, nb 4, w 1)**:** 22; **Total:** (for 8 wickets in 127 ovs) 564 decl.; **FoW:** 4-416, 5-452, 6-456, 7-510, 8-540. **Bowling:** Rahman 24-2-91-1, Omarzai 22-5-67-0, Saleem 27-3-140-6, Kharote 23-0-115-0, Malik 7-0-43-0, Shahidi 24-1-91-1; **Afg 1st innings:** Malik c Siraj b Suthar 16, Atal b Prasidh 17, Gurbaz c Sai Sudharsan b Suthar 12, Shahidi lbw b Prasidh 20, Zazai c & b Suthar, Rahmat batting 43; **Extras:** (nb 1, w 1) 2; **Total:** (for 5 wickets in 39.5 ovs): 113; **FoW:** 1-28, 2-40, 3-62, 4-98, 5-113. **Bowling:** Siraj 6-1-24-0, Prasidh 7-0-27-2, Suthar 15.5-7-21-3, Kuldeep 7-0-29-0, Washington 4-0-12-0.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

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Grading on a Greener Scale

Environmental studies turn practical and popular

SOHAM MITRA

AS climate change restructures everyday life through rising temperatures, water scarcity and extreme weather events, educators across India are increasingly asking a pertinent question: are educational institutes doing enough to prepare students for a climate-challenged future?

From microbiology laboratories to environmental science classrooms, sustainability education is gradually evolving from a peripheral topic into a central academic concern which not only builds awareness but also equips students with practical solutions for the future. Dr Uttariya Roy, professor in the Department of Environmental Science at Budge Budge College under the University of Calcutta, says climate and sustainability education has undergone a significant transformation over the past decade.

"Climate and sustainability education has rapidly evolved from an optional science-oriented subject into an important multidisciplinary course," he says. "Today, almost every school, college and university is integrating environmental studies into mainstream education."

According to him, the National Education Policy (NEP) has accelerated this change by encouraging environmental studies across secondary and higher education. However, he believes there remains a major gap between theory and practice. "Current curricula mostly emphasise theoretical concepts rather than converting knowledge into behavioural change or civic engagement," Dr Roy explains. "There is also a lack of proper faculty training and practical implementation according to India's socio-economic realities."

Abhishek Pal, Assistant Professor in the Department of Microbiology at Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira, Belur Math, believes microbiology can play an important role in helping students understand climate change from a scientific perspective.

class roots

"Most students learn about carbon dioxide emissions from cars and factories, but they rarely realise that microbes produce and consume more greenhouse gases than all combined human activities," he says.

He points to methanogenic archaea found in paddy fields and cattle rumen which release methane — a greenhouse gas far more potent than carbon dioxide. "Microbiology gives students a more complete idea about climate change and also shows that microbes can become allies in solving environmental problems," he adds.

Practical learning, educators say, is necessary for developing environmental responsibility among students. Composting, water testing, soil analysis and studying biofertilisers can help students connect scientific concepts with real-world sustainability challenges. "Hands-on experiments help students understand how microbes reduce pollution, recycle nutrients and contribute to renewable energy solutions like biogas and biofuels," says Pal. He also believes simple activities can make sustainability more engaging for younger learners. "Observing microbes in curd or conducting basic composting projects connects daily life with microbiology," he says. "Storytelling and games can further attract younger students."

Dr Roy emphasises that educational institutions themselves must become models of sustainability. He suggests promoting field trips, seminars, workshops and community-based learning experiences to encourage sustainable behaviour in everyday life. "Universities can drive climate innovation by encouraging multidisciplinary research, green technologies and eco-friendly campus infrastructure," he says. "Faculty exchange programmes and collaboration across departments can also strengthen climate research."

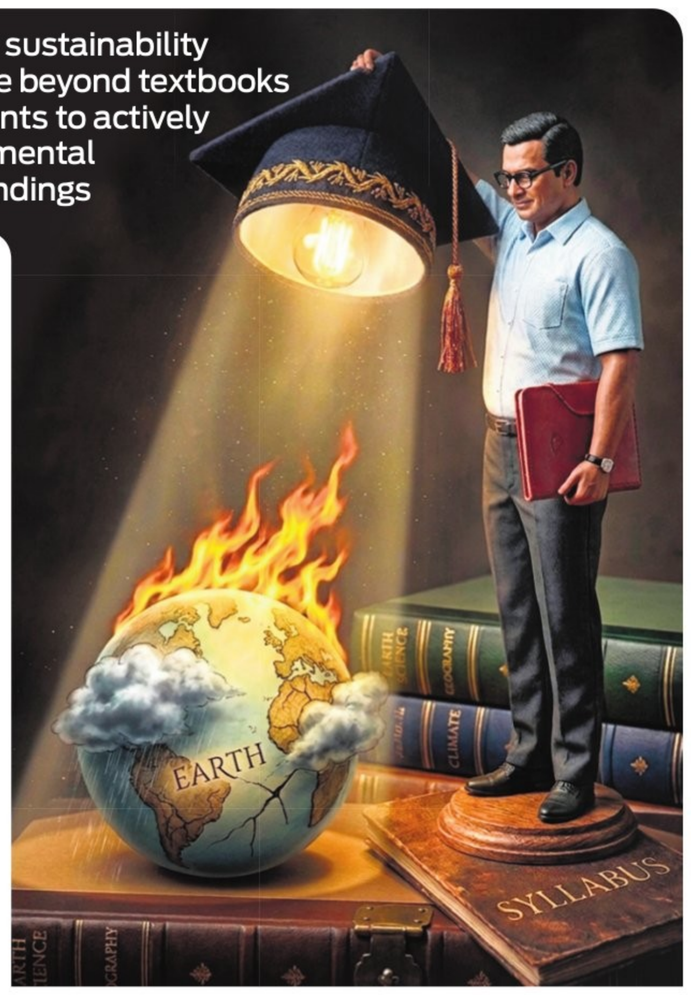
Both educators agree that sustainability awareness should become mandatory across disciplines, regardless of academic stream. "Every individual should learn sustainability awareness from student life itself," says Dr Roy. "Protecting ecosystems for future generations is everyone's responsibility."

At the same time, experts caution against ignoring indigenous and rural ecological knowledge systems. Dr Roy notes that climate education in India has historically been urban-centric, though recent efforts have begun recognising traditional environmental practices and local biodiversity knowledge.

While AI can improve access to information and accelerate learning, Dr Roy warns that advanced technologies themselves can place additional pressure on natural resources.

As India faces mounting environmental challenges, educators believe sustainability education can no longer remain confined to a chapter in textbooks. Instead, they argue, it should prepare students to understand climate change and actively shape a more sustainable future.

Educators argue that sustainability education must move beyond textbooks and encourage students to actively engage with environmental issues in their surroundings



INSIDE THE AIBE

Raising the bar for practising law in India

YECHURI SASHIKANTH

WITH an aim to improve the standard of the legal profession, the Bar Council of India (BCI) has introduced the All India Bar Examination (AIBE). This certification exam is conducted twice a year for candidates who hold a law degree and are interested in practicing law. Candidates who stand out in this assessment examination are awarded a 'Certificate of Practice,' which allows them to start practicing as a lawyer in any court within India.

brief case

Aspirants must hold a valid 3-year or 5-year LLB degree from a BCI-recognised university or college to register for AIBE. Candidates in their final semester are also eligible to apply for this examination. There is no upper or lower age limit for the AIBE. There are no restrictions on the number of attempts.

UNDERSTANDING THE EXAM PATTERN

THE entrance exam is conducted to assess the basic knowledge of a candidate and lay down a minimum benchmark for entering into the practice of law, in addition to assessing analytical skills.

Mode of examination	Offline
Duration of exam	3 hours 30 minutes
Type of questions	Objective-type
Number of questions	100
Total marks	100
Negative marking	No

ARYA VIDYA

clean audit

Auditing the climate

Greenhouse gas auditors are building careers at the intersection of sustainability, science and global carbon markets

A career as a greenhouse gas (GHG) auditor is emerging as one of the most promising opportunities in the growing climate and sustainability sector. As countries and companies focus more on reducing emissions and meeting climate goals, professionals who can verify carbon reduction claims are becoming increasingly important.

GHG auditors work with validation and verification bodies (VVBs), organisations responsible for checking whether carbon projects genuinely reduce or remove greenhouse gas emissions. These professionals review project documents, monitoring data, environmental approvals and technical calculations before carbon credits are issued under standards such as Gold Standard or Verra VCS standard.

Anagha, a greenhouse gas auditor at Earthood Services Limited, a company based in Gurugram, explains, "When a carbon project claims it reduced or removed a certain amount of greenhouse gases, someone has to check whether that's actually true. That is my job as an GHG auditor."

Students from environmental science, forestry, ecology, geography, agriculture or engineering backgrounds can pursue this field. Certifications like ISO 14064 and 14065 auditor training, along with methodology-based training under Gold Standard or Verra VCS, are highly useful for entering the profession.

The work combines technical desk-based auditing with field exposure. Auditors often travel to project locations across India and abroad to validate whether projects are functioning according to approved standards. "One of the most interesting parts is the site visit phase. We may spend several days or even weeks on-site to validate how things are being implemented in practice," says Anagha.

The career offers opportunities in carbon project development, ESG consulting, sustainability reporting, carbon trading and climate policy. Entry-level salaries generally range between ₹6 lakh and ₹8 lakh per annum, while experienced professionals working as lead auditors or climate advisors can earn up to ₹30 lakh annually or more.

With India expanding its domestic carbon market and climate regulations becoming stricter worldwide, the demand for skilled GHG auditors is expected to rise significantly in the coming years.

Digital evaluation worth it despite glitches: Kamakoti

The IIT-Madras director says infrastructure has improved significantly since the earlier rollout of OSM by CBSE and expects the current set of glitches to be resolved quickly

S LALITHA

WITH the Education ministry roping in experts from IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur to help with technical glitches in the Class XII digital evaluation system of the CBSE, we caught up with Prof. V Kamakoti, director of IIT-Madras and Padma Shri awardee, to understand the issues and the way ahead:

● The on-screen marking System (OSM) for evaluation of answer sheets was adopted by the CBSE in 2014, but given up later due to technical infrastructure issues. After 12 years, it has been reintroduced and has stumbled into major issues. Is there a problem with the digital system itself?

We have the necessary technical infrastructure now. While glitches have occurred, we cannot demean everything the CBSE has done so far. The initial teething problems will always be there. The OSM is superior to physical evaluation.

tech check

Firstly, it removes bias as the teacher does not know which student has written it. Secondly, the best teachers can be selected for evaluation. The CBSE has selected around 77,000 experienced teachers. The students get the best evaluators to assess their answers. Thirdly, the teacher is free from any influence of the previous marking. In the case of physical correction, the teacher is aware of the previous marks and this could influence the awarding of marks. In a digital evaluation, the teacher is evaluating the paper afresh. And fourthly, this is a public exam. The parents can see what the student has written when viewing the answer scripts later.

I'll share my personal experience: I lost one mark in my Class XII CBSE Maths exam in 1985 and got 99 out of 100. Even today, that thought haunts me as I really wanted to score a centum. Today, a student can easily find out where they lost their marks.

● Do you suspect there has been a cyber attack on the portal?

We really do not know. Payment was not going through in the bank's process. There could have been denial of service; when there is a sudden surge in traffic, the response slows down.

● What is the feedback that the IIT teams are giving?

That is confidential and will be submitted directly to the Education Ministry. IIT-Madras has sent two faculty members well-versed with such large scale operations. Our people have rectified the glitches and the trial tests turned out fine.

● Does IIT-Madras have experience of handling such a huge number?

We handle the Svayam portal where more than 1.5 million students log in every year. We have 2.5 lakh people who apply for our online Data Science course every year. Our priority is to ensure that the anxiety of students and parents is reduced by starting the re-evaluation process at the earliest.

Teething problems will always be there, but the OSM is superior to physical evaluation. It removes bias, as the teacher neither knows which student has written it, nor their previous marks

Prof. V Kamakoti, director of IIT-Madras and Padma Shri awardee

BLUEPRINT FOR GREEN CAMPUSES

KARTHIKEYA S

fresh start

Here's how India's education institutions embed sustainability into every aspect of campus life

WHAT does a sustainable university campus actually look like?

According to experts, such a campus is not defined by decisions made long before its first building is occupied. "University campuses must incorporate the idea of sustainability from the design stage itself," says architect Manish Gulati.

Having designed campuses such as NIFT-Kangra and ITM-University in Gwalior, Gulati argues that sustainability cannot be an afterthought. Waste management, water conservation, biodiversity, and green cover should be integrated into campus planning rather than added later.

"Adding sustainability systems after a campus has been constructed is like designing a human body without a digestive or nervous system and trying to install them later," he says.

Gulati advocates climate-responsive architecture, including natural ventilation, shaded corridors, courtyards, and context-appropriate materials to reduce dependence on artificial cooling and lighting. "At NIFT-Kangra, classroom lights are rarely switched on before 5 pm because the design allows sufficient natural daylight," he notes, citing his own work.

Sustainability in action

Gulati's philosophy finds a practical expression at IIT-Gandhinagar, India's first campus to receive a 5-star GRIHA LD rating. To cope with Gujarat's semi-arid climate, the campus has incorporated passive cooling measures such as cavity walls, night-purge ventilation, shading devices, climate-responsive landscaping, and the preservation of ponds and native vegetation, reducing heat gain while improving the campus microclimate.

Rooftop rainwater is stored in underground reservoirs with a capacity of 50 lakh litres, while all sewage is treated and reused for landscaping. The campus also has a biogas plant to segregate, compost, and process waste, enabling the institute to recycle more than 93% of its waste.

Built to endure

Campuses can improve microclimates and lower heat gain through passive cooling measures, native vegetation, and climate-responsive landscaping

A generation discusses environmental activism that is compelled to live with its consequences

ANGELA MARY THOMAS

green front

Keeping the good fight

BEFORE environmentalism became a movement, it was simply the recognition that human life is inseparable from the world that sustains it. The river that flows, the forest that shelters, and the air we breathe are the foundations upon which all civilisations endure.

Student activism: two words that, some say, have no business being together. Yet the history of environmentalism suggests otherwise. In India, student environmental activism belongs to a lineage that stretches from the Chipko movement to the Narmada Bachao Andolan.

"Everyone has a place in the environmental movement. One doesn't need to be a scientist or an activist to make a difference," says Ananya, an MSc student in Bengaluru. "The environmental movement belongs to anyone who recognises that the environments we inhabit ultimately shape the lives we lead."

Never before has humanity known so much about the environmental consequences of its actions, and never before has it altered the planet so profoundly. The generation entering adulthood today will live through the consequences of decisions they did not make.

Ruchith, a 21-year-old student activist from Telangana, says, "For me, environmentalism cannot be separated from social justice. Climate change affects health, livelihoods, education, and the future people are working towards."

However, before there is conservation, activism, or policy, there must first be a connection to the natural world. Ishan Shanavas, a wildlife educator, believes environmentalism begins with curiosity and wonder. "People often speak about the environment in terms of crises and statistics, but what first drew me to it was appreciation. The moment you begin paying attention to the natural world, it becomes impossible not to be fascinated by it," he says.

Every generation inherits the earth from those who came before, and holds it for those who come after.

What this generation does with that trust will matter long after World Environment Day has passed.

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DAY'S DIARY

Movie release

The classic American supernatural comedy film, *Ghostbusters*, was released in theaters on June 8, 1984. It received widespread critical praise

PLOT

Directed by Ivan Reitman, the film starred Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis as a trio of eccentric parapsychologists who start a ghost-catching business in NYC

HIT MAKER

It combined the elements of science fiction and horror, comedy and action-adventure films of Steven Spielberg and George Lucas

HONOURS

It became the top summer blockbuster of 1984. The Library of Congress honoured the film by preserving it in the National Film Registry in 2015

What's happening in Bengaluru?

PG 2

Through *Persepolis*, Marjane Satrapi turned comic into a vehicle for history and political witness. Her death marks the loss of an artist who spent a lifetime translating worlds

WEIGHT OF SADNESS

PRACHI SATRAWAL

A still from the critically-acclaimed animated film *Persepolis*

THE Iranian-French artist **Marjane Satrapi** spent her life in movement, from Tehran to Vienna, Strasbourg to Paris. Towards the end of *Persepolis*, her comic book published in early 2000, she wrote that 'every goodbye feels a little like dying', and on June 4, when her family announced her death at 56, those words acquired an unexpected finality.

Her loved ones reached for an honest word to describe the reason for her death: 'sadness', as the news came a little over a year after the death of Mattias Ripa, her husband and the great love of her life.

To Read Her Was To Know Her

Satrapi made the self a vessel for narrative, asking readers to trust the ordinary detail of life as a route towards larger histories. She once said she would never have achieved anything had she not been her mother's daughter, a woman endowed with immense potential, whose countless dreams were constrained by the society around her. The questions Satrapi wrestled with continue to shape daily life across the subcontinent, state violence, religious nationalism, the policing of women's bodies or the pressure to perform a sanctioned identity.

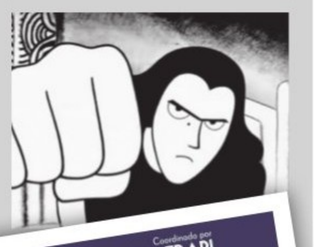
This was among Satrapi's earliest acts of translation, the carrying of ordinary lives and thwarted ambitions across the supposed distance between nations and households. Her pages brim with such moments, the grandmother who tucked jasmine flowers into her brassiere each morning, the women who gathered over tea to talk of men and marriage, whose conversation was as much resistance as any march.

She came to the form almost by accident, after moving to Paris and sharing a studio with cartoonists. Initially wary of the painstaking labour the medium demanded, she soon found in it the union of her two deepest instincts, writing and drawing. Her creative life exceeded any single form as she went on to direct acclaimed films, including the Cannes Jury Prize-winning adaptation of *Persepolis*, and pursued painting alongside filmmaking and writing.

Not So Black and White

Her most famous work was written in French, translated into English with her husband's help, and has since been translated into nearly 20 languages. Yet her greatest act of translation was between worlds. For decades, Iran had existed in the Western imagination as a geopolitical abstraction, a shorthand for religious conservatism. Satrapi changed the way Iran was seen through sharing narratives from her lived reality. Freedom was the thread that ran through the disparate parts of her life, be it her support for the Woman, Life, Freedom movement after the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini (who died in 2022, while in the custody of Iran's morality police), or her refusal to become a convenient symbol of Iran or the West.

Marjane Satrapi's painting titled École des filles 1



She refused the easy roles written for her, whether the token Iranian victim on French television or the secular feminist expected to dutifully denounce the veil. "For me, prohibiting the veil and forcing it are the same. You cannot just go and tell people what they should and should not do."

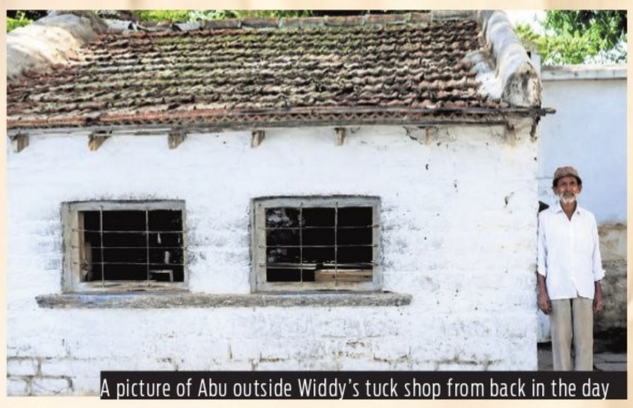
In 2025, she turned down the Légion d'Honneur rather than serve as a decorative dissident, citing France's hypocritical posture towards Iran. On Palestine, though, some readers found her conspicuously quiet, and the complaint has teeth, given her lifelong opposition to authoritarianism and her defence of human dignity. The criticism deserves consideration, but it does not cancel her body of work. Her artistic and political practice is large enough to hold admiration and argument alike.

Humour Against Despair

Satrapi's belief in humour was the way other people believe in God. "We cry all for the same reasons, but we don't laugh for the same reasons." To understand another's laughter is to understand something of their world. She began *Persepolis* only at 29, having waited out her rage, humour became one of her sharpest tools. Against all her own cynicism, Satrapi believed that cruelty was just loud, that decency was more common than we imagine, and that solidarity remained possible despite everything. She drew her past so that others might find their way through the present. In the gutter between two panels, she left us a set of keys to rooms of humour, grief, resistance and love.

REZWAN RAZACK

(The author is a noted business leader, an authority in Indian paper money and an SJBHS alumnus)



A picture of Abu outside Widdy's tuck shop from back in the day

Sweet Echo of Short Break

Good food and long-lasting memories continue to define Widdy's tuck shop at St Joseph's Boys' High School

FOR generations of students at St Joseph's Boys' High School (SJBHS) in Bengaluru, the true heart of the campus didn't lie within the stone classrooms or even on the vast stretches of New Fields. Instead, it was anchored in a small, bustling epicentre of joy tucked away near the boundary wall: Widdy's, the legendary school tuck shop.To an outsider, it was just a modest counter. But to a Josephite, Widdy's was a sanctuary with a rich history stretching back over a century.

Century-Old Roots

The story of the tuck shop began in 1908, when Rahman established it to serve both British and Indian students. It was a simple setup that grew into an irreplaceable pillar of the school. The true golden age of the shop, however, is inseparable from Rahman's grandson, the late Abdul, affectionately known to generations of schoolboys as Widdy or Abu. Widdy's association with the school began in 1942 when, at just 12 years old, he started helping out at the counter. He would go on to spend over 70 years serving the school, becoming the face of the tuck shop and a foundational figure in the childhood memories of countless Josephites.

The morning classes, heavy with the serious, old-world discipline of Jesuit fathers, were merely a prelude to the main event of the day. The moment the short-break bell chimed, hundreds of boys, driven by a singular mission, would race down staircases and across the quadrangle. The destination? A crowded yet perfectly democratic huddle around Widdy's.

Positioned at the centre of the storm, Abdul was a force of nature. While pocket money was measured in mere paise and dozens of hands stretched over the shoulders of taller boys, he possessed a legendary, almost superhuman ability to track the chaos. He knew exactly who had handed over their coins, who was still waiting for their change, and who was trying to sneak an extra sweet. Survival in that crowd depended entirely on loud vocal cords and Abdul's uncanny patience, as he managed a hundred schoolboys simultaneously without ever losing his cool.

Art of the Monthly Tab

Perhaps the most unique feature of Widdy's, and an essential rite of passage for boarders and many day scholars alike, was the legendary monthly credit system. Long before the era of digital wallets or credit cards, Josephites learned a fundamental lesson in high finance right at the counter: the glorious concept of 'eat now, pay later'. For the boarders, who lived away from home, and many regular kids whose pockets were temporarily empty, Abdul maintained a running ledger. With a quick nod and a scribble in his book, a hot snack or a cold drink would be handed over on trust. It was an early introduction to financial responsibility and the impending dread of settlement day at the end of the month, rooted entirely in mutual respect and Abdul's sharp memory.

Flavours of Nostalgia

The menu was a masterclass in classic comfort foods and sweets, possessing a culinary magic that no high-end bakery in modern Bangalore could ever hope to replicate. There were the iconic, sweet-and-sour tamarind sweets that set your tongue tingling, the bright orange boiled sweets that were rationed to last through history class, and the incredibly sticky, hard-to-resist 'stick jaws.'

The counter was famous for its legendary bun samosas, piping-hot onion samosas, golden aloo bondas, and its signature special halwa that perfectly hit the spot after a gruelling physical training session. On hot afternoon breaks, a cold drink handed over by Abdul wasn't just a refreshment; it was pure liquid gold. It was a place where treats were broken in half and shared among friends, forging the very bonds of camaraderie that Josephites carry with them for the rest of their lives.

More Than Just a Shop

Widdy's was an institution within an institution. It witnessed the quiet sharing of exam anxieties, the triumphant post-match celebrations of the school sports teams and the whispered strategies of boys planning their next bit of mischief. Abdul was much more than a vendor; he was a silent guardian of school tradition. Following Abdul's passing in 2020, a profound sense of loss felt across the global Josephite community only served to highlight his immense impact. Honouring his incredible legacy, the management of the iconic tuck shop remains proudly within the founder's family today, ensuring that the spirit of the shop lives on for future generations. An old boy might forget a textbook lesson, but no Josephite ever forgets Abdul or the freedom of saying, "Put it on my account."

Years later, long after the red dust of the old Cantonment had settled and the boys had grown up to become leaders, business heads and citizens of the world, the sensory memories of Widdy's and Abdul's familiar faces remain completely unchanged. The crinkle of the paper wrappers, the sharp ring of the break bell and the taste of those simple midday treats still evoke an immense, timeless warmth – a sweet reminder of what it truly meant to grow up under the banner of Fide et Labore.

ACE & INNINGS

Former World No. 1 badminton star Prakash Padukone has started exploring & incorporating AI to map a player's movement, patterns & positioning across the court

SAPTARSHI C

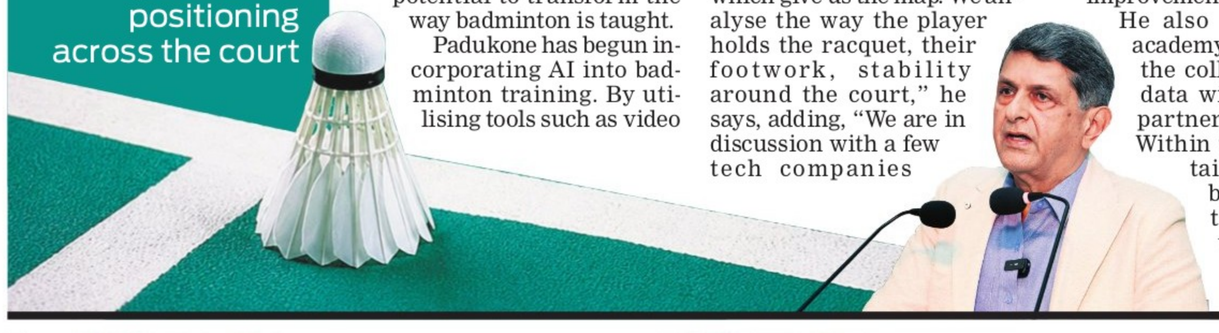
FOR decades, badminton coaching has been built on the experience, intuition and keen observation of coaches who guided players through every aspect of the game. However, the sport now stands at the threshold of a technological revolution. Legendary badminton player and former World No. 1 **Prakash Padukone** believes that Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to transform the way badminton is taught.

Padukone has begun incorporating AI into badminton training. By utilising tools such as video analytics, motion tracking, and performance data analysis, AI can provide detailed insights into a player's technique, movement patterns, decision-making and performance. "We are video recording matches post which a 3D version is generated which give us the map. We analyse the way the player holds the racquet, their footwork, stability around the court," he says, adding, "We are in discussion with a few tech companies who are keen to support us in expanding this initiative."

A key observation Padukone has made is that many parents are eager to follow their children's progress on court, but it is often difficult for them to be physically present during training sessions. "We plan to record the sessions, review the footage and then share those videos with parents," he explains. "It will give them a clearer understanding of how their children are performing and areas of improvement."

He also adds that the academy plans to share the collected training data with technology partners for analysis. Within two days, a detailed report will be sent back to the academy, which will allow the coaches to assess players' performance accurately and provide targeted guidance based on the insights. In some cases, the data could reveal gaps in coaching methods as well. "If we notice the same mistakes repeated by 30-40 students, it will indicate a need to improve the coaching style," he says.

AI can also analyse wrist work, a key element in badminton. "Wrist work varies player to player. We have noticed many students often struggle with this. Once the session gets over, we show them the way they played and the result we obtained from AI. That will give them a clear picture of what needs to be done. Then, with the guidance, we try to solve the problems within a specific timeframe," says the first Indian to win the All England Open in 1980.



CITY READ

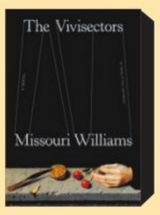
Free Japanese film marathon on June 13, 14

The Consulate-General of Japan and Japan Foundation is organising a free Japanese movie marathon at PES University, Banashankari, on June 13 and 14. The marathon will showcase six films – *First Gentleman* (2021), *Penguin Highway* (2018), *Campaign* (2008), *Oshin* (2013), *Tremble All You Want* (2017) and *We Make Antiques! Kyoto Rendezvous* (2020), that will provide the audience with a deeper understanding of Japanese culture and everyday life through cinema. For details, visit @japan_consulate_bengaluru on Instagram.

Cricket icon hosts meet-and-greet in city

Sneaker LAB, the South Africa-born sneaker and fashion care brand, recently concluded its Golden Wipe consumer campaign in India with an exclusive meet-and-greet experience featuring cricketing icon AB de Villiers. The initiative rewarded winners who discovered hidden Golden Wipes within select Sneaker Wipe packs, allowing them to meet the cricketer through a curated experience featuring personal interactions, photos and conversations with him.

BOOK NOOK



The Vivisectors
by Missouri Williams

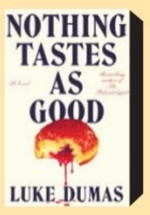
A professor's personal assistant gets caught between her boss and a male student she is drawn to. Williams combines the mysterious style of a gothic novel with a satire on modern society and its twisted contradictions.

Uprising
by Tahmima Anam

The novel follows Kusum Khan as she is forced into sex work by a sadistic madam on an island. Yet, she refuses to yield, and soon the collective complacency of her fellow prisoners turns into ferocity and defiance.

Dear Monica Lewinsky
by Julia Langbein

Monica writes letters to her younger self amid a scandalising time as she tries to reclaim a narrative stolen by power from her. The book follows her rebirth from public shame to unapologetic strength.



Nothing Tastes As Good
by Luke Dumas

The compelling thriller follows Emmett Truesdale's journey as an unfit man, soon blurring the line between hunger and horror. As soon as this journey takes a murderous turn, the book is dark and explores insatiable hunger.

IN THE BLING OF AN EYE

De Beers Group Director of Education and Training Jodine Bolden (left) guides attendees through a masterclass, where they played with rough natural diamonds to understand their unique internal characteristics

QUICKFIX

SIMPLE COCOA PANCAKES

INGREDIENTS

- **All-purpose flour (maida):** 1 cup (120 g)
- **Sugar:** 2 tbsp
- **Baking powder:** 1½ tsp
- **Cocoa powder:** 1 tsp
- **Salt:** ¼ tsp
- **Milk:** 1 cup (240 ml)
- **Melted butter or oil:** 1 tbsp
- **Vanilla extract (optional, but recommended):** ½ tsp

METHOD

- Take a bowl and add all the dry ingredients.
- Then add the wet ingredients.
- Mix everything until you get a smooth batter (not too thick and not too runny).
- Heat a pan on medium heat and lightly grease it with butter or oil.
- Pour a small ladle of batter onto the pan.
- Cook for about 1-2 minutes until bubbles appear, then flip.
- Cook the other side for one minute until golden.
- Serve hot with honey, syrup, butter, Nutella or fruits.

Contributed by **Shreya Jain,** Bengaluru

ASK AN XPERT

DR VIVEK ARORA

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Crown Vet, Delhi.

My 3-year-old Cockatiel has begun screaming often during the day. Is it linked to boredom, hormones or a health issue? How should I respond without encouraging the behaviour?

A three-year-old Cockatiel may become more vocal because of boredom, hormonal behavior, stress, a need for attention, or an underlying medical condition. Watch for signs such as reduced appetite, fluffed feathers, lethargy, breathing difficulty, or changes in droppings, as these can suggest illness. Provide adequate enrichment with toys, foraging opportunities, and regular social interaction to reduce boredom. Maintain a stable daily routine and avoid rewarding screaming by responding immediately to it. Instead, encourage and reward calm, quiet behaviour with praise, treats, or attention. Persistent screaming or additional symptoms warrant evaluation by your veterinarian.

FITBIT

BEST TRX EXERCISES FOR FULL-BODY STRENGTH

TRX suspension training uses your body weight and gravity to build strength, stability, mobility, and core control. People do TRX because it challenges multiple muscle groups simultaneously while being scalable for beginners and advanced exercisers alike.

How to do it

- Hold the handles with palms facing each other.
- Lean back while keeping your body straight.
- Pull your chest toward the handles.
- Slowly lower back to the starting position.

TRX CHEST PRESS

It is a suspension-training alternative to push-ups that challenges stability and upper-body strength.

How to do it

- Face away from the anchor point.
- Hold the handles and lean forward.
- Lower your chest between your hands.
- Push back to the starting position.

TRX SQUAT TO ROW

Combines lower-body and upper-body training into one efficient movement.

How to do it

- Hold the TRX handles.
- Perform a squat.
- As you stand up, pull yourself into a row.
- Return to the start and repeat.

TRX PLANK

This suspension training significantly increases core activation compared to traditional planks.

How to do it

- Place your feet in the TRX foot cradles.
- Assume a forearm plank position.
- Keep your body in a straight line.
- Brace your core and hold.

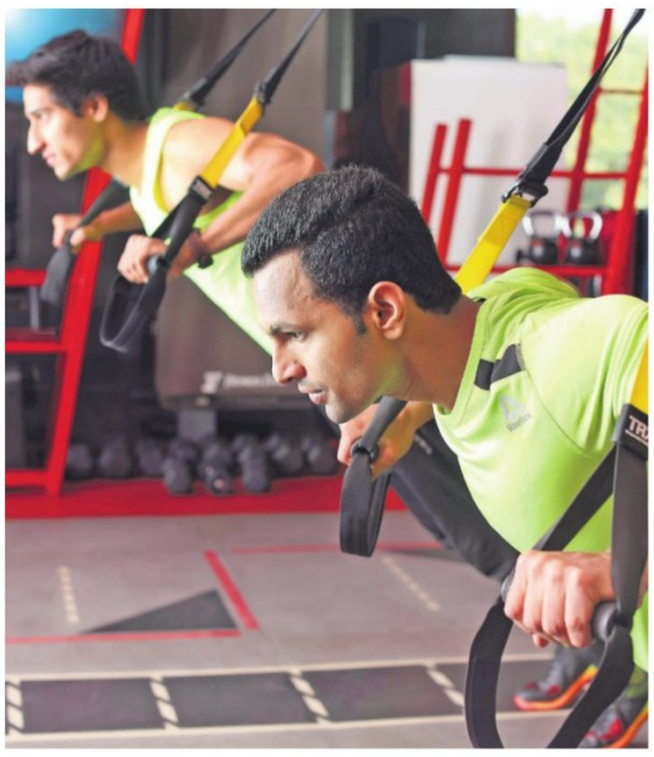
TRX SINGLE-LEG LUNGE

A powerful exercise for balance, lower-body strength, and injury prevention.

How to do it

- Place one foot in the TRX strap behind you.
- Lower into a lunge.
- Drive through the front heel to stand.
- Complete all reps before switching sides.

TRX training is one of the most effective ways to build functional strength using only your body weight. If you're looking for good return on effort, consider these five exercises among others: TRX Row, Chest Press, Squat to Row, Plank, and Single-Leg Lunge. Together, they target major muscle groups while improving stability, mobility and overall fitness.



By Spoorthi S, fitness expert, cult – a fitness and wellness platform

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

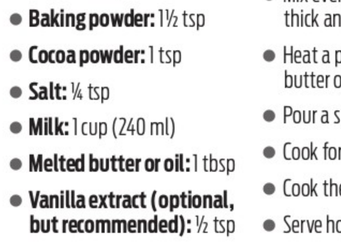
@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures
bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
@xpress_bengaluru

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Ballroom Fiesta

Go solo or take your partner to this beginner-friendly ballroom dancing session where you will learn posture, coordination, rhythm and connection to perfect your form on the dance floor. Don't forget to take a pair of comfortable shoes and dance the blues away.

WHEN: June 8, 12.30pm
WHERE: New York Dance Classes, BTM Layout
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com



Midnight Hilarity

Enjoy this curated comedy show where stand-up comedians deliver their most outrageous jokes and bits that jolt you awake from any sleepiness and leave you in stitches. Take along your friends or family and spend the night immersed in jokes and laughter.

WHEN: June 8, 11pm
WHERE: The Comedy Theatre, Church Street
CALL: 82996 72963

Telugu Melodies

Enjoy this musical jam session where you can sing along to familiar, timeless telugu songs and take a trip down memory lane. Take your friends and family along to bond over favourite tunes.

WHEN: June 8, 6pm onwards
WHERE: Silaa The Garden Cafe, HSR Layout
CALL: 82962 56667

Mango Madness

Relish this specially curated menu where mango takes over favourite Pan-Asian flavours and signature cocktails. From bold sushi creations and chef specials to refreshing mango-infused drinks, every experience is crafted to be sweet, vibrant and unforgettable.

WHEN: June 8, 12pm onwards
WHERE: Yazu Pan Asian Supper Club, St Mark's Road
DETAILS: district.in

City Exploring

Experience Old Bengaluru in this expert-led city tour where you will explore the vibrant wonders of Gandhi Bazaar, visit the centuries-old Bull Temple and end the day with a classic dosae meal.

WHEN: June 8, 9am onwards
WHERE: Bugle Rock Park Entrance, Basavanagudi (Meeting Point)
DETAILS: airbnb.co.in

Warli Artistry

Step into this beginner-friendly Warli workshop and learn how simple lines, circles and patterns come together to create meaningful scenes inspired by nature, village life and celebration. Experience the art deeply in this guided session that will teach you the history and the basics of Warli artwork.

WHEN: June 8, 3pm
WHERE: Hobby Ghar, Basavanagudi
CALL: 95355 55644

Reel Good Time

Immerse yourself in this film screening of Satoshi Kon's *Millennium Actress*. In this anime movie, a documentary crew visits a retired actress to record her life story, only to find themselves swept into a journey through her memories and the many roles she played on screen. The film becomes a reflection on love, identity and the enduring power of storytelling.

WHEN: June 9, 7.30pm
WHERE: Underline Center, Domlur
DETAILS: @cinemanextdoor_ on Instagram

ARTCORNER

YOUNG MEN AT REST

Salman Toor's unhurried and sumptuous figurative paintings depict intimate, quotidian moments

Vegetable Oats Cutlets

Ingredients

- Rolled oats: 1 cup
- Boiled potato: 1, large
- Carrot (grated): ½ cup
- Beans (finely chopped): ¼ cup
- Onion (finely chopped): 1, small
- Cumin powder: ½ tsp
- Salt: to taste
- Pepper: ½ tsp
- Oil: 2 tbsp

Method

Dry roast oats for 2-3 minutes and allow them to cool slightly. Mash the potato in a bowl and add oats, carrot, beans, onion, cumin powder, salt and pepper. Mix well. Shape into small cutlets. Heat the oil in a pan and shallow-fry until golden brown on both sides. Cool slightly before packing into lunchboxes. Serve with tomato ketchup or mint chutney.

SNACK ATTACK!

As schools reopen, the morning rush to pack tiffin is also back. CE rounds up healthy, lunchbox-friendly snack recipes that are quick to make and fun for children to eat

Ragi Peanut Balls

Ingredients

- Ragi flour: 1 cup
- Peanuts (roasted and crushed): ½ cup
- Jaggery: ½ cup
- Ghee: 2 tbsp
- Cardamom powder: ¼ tsp

Method

Dry roast ragi flour on low heat for 5 minutes until aromatic. Heat jaggery with 2 tablespoon water until melted. Add roasted peanuts, cardamom powder and ragi flour. Mix well. Add ghee and combine until the mixture holds shape. Roll into small balls while still warm. These can be stored in an airtight container for up to a week.

Egg Muffins

Ingredients

- Eggs: 4
- Milk: 2 tbsp
- Spinach (chopped): ¼ cup
- Onion (finely chopped): ¼ cup
- Cheese (grated): ¼ cup
- Salt and pepper: to taste

Method

Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease muffin trays lightly. Beat eggs with milk, salt and pepper. Add spinach, onion and cheese. Pour mixture into muffin cups. Bake for 15-18 minutes until set and lightly golden. Cool before packing.

Corn and Chickpea Chaat

Ingredients

- Sweet corn (boiled): 1 cup
- Boiled chickpeas: 1 cup
- Cucumber (chopped): ½ cup
- Tomato (chopped): ½ cup
- Lime juice: 1 tsp
- Chaat masala: ½ tsp
- Salt: to taste

Method

Combine corn, chickpeas, cucumber, and tomato in a bowl. Add lime juice, chaat masala and salt. Toss gently. Pack in small airtight containers. Add pomegranate seeds for extra colour and sweetness.

Paneer Roll-Up

Ingredients

- Whole wheat rotis: 4
- Paneer (crumbled): 1 cup
- Carrot (grated): ¼ cup
- Capsicum (finely chopped): ¼ cup
- Salt: to taste
- Pepper: ¼ tsp
- Butter: 1 tsp

Method

Heat butter in a pan and saute the carrot and capsicum for 2 minutes. Add paneer, salt, and pepper. Mix well. Spread the filling over rotis and roll tightly. Cut into small pinwheels or pack whole. These can be prepared the previous night and refrigerated.

SUPRIYA

EARLY morning alarms are set again, and you enter the kitchen before the sun even comes up.

The return of the school season also brings back the daily rush of packing lunchboxes before the school bus arrives. Between unfinished homework, missing erasers and sleepy-eyed children, preparing healthy snacks can often feel like an extra challenge during an already busy morning. The race against time is real and many parents find themselves reaching for packaged snacks simply because they are quick and convenient.

But healthy snacks do not always have to be complicated or time-consuming. With a few simple ingredients and a little planning, they can be both nutritious and tempting. Crunchy cutlets, soft idlis, and colourful rolls – there are plenty of options that are easy to prepare on hectic mornings.

Here are a few recipes that travel well in tiffin boxes and stay fresh for hours, keeping little tummies full through the school day.

Moong Sprouts Dosae Rolls

Ingredients

- Dosae batter: 2 cups
- Moong sprouts: 1 cup
- Carrot (grated): ¼ cup
- Capsicum (finely chopped): ¼ cup
- Onion (finely chopped): 1, small
- Paneer (crumbled): ½ cup
- Turmeric powder: ¼ tsp
- Pepper powder: ¼ tsp
- Salt: to taste
- Oil or ghee: as required
- Coriander leaves (chopped): 2 tbsp

Method

Heat a little oil in a pan. Add onion and saute until soft. Add moong sprouts, carrot, and capsicum. Cook for 3-4 minutes on low heat until slightly tender. Add turmeric powder, pepper, salt and paneer. Cook for another minute. Add coriander leaves and switch off the flame. Heat a dosae pan and make lightly crisp dosaes. Place a portion of the filling in the centre and roll tightly. Allow to cool slightly before packing. Serve with chutney or ketchup.

Yoghurt Fruit Parfait

Ingredients

- Thick yoghurt: 1 cup
- Honey: 1 tbsp
- Banana (sliced): 1
- Apple (chopped): 1
- Granola: ½ cup

Method

Mix honey into yoghurt. Layer yoghurt, fruits and granola in small jars or containers. Repeat layers until filled. Keep chilled until packed. Pack granola separately to keep it crunchy.

Banana Pancake Bites

Ingredients

- Bananas: 2, ripe
- Eggs: 2
- Whole wheat flour: ½ cup
- Cinnamon powder: ¼ tsp
- Butter or ghee: 1 tsp

Method

Mash bananas in a bowl until smooth. Add eggs, flour and cinnamon powder. Mix into a smooth batter. Heat a pan and grease lightly with butter or ghee. Pour small spoonfuls of batter and cook until bubbles appear. Flip and cook the other side. Allow to cool and pack as bite-sized pieces.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) YALLAPPA** S/o Duragappa, Residing at No. 67, Jagir-Jadaldinni Post, Devadurga Taluk, Raichur - 584 129 (Now at Bangalore), have changed my Name from **(OLD NAME) YALLAPPA to (NEW NAME) VAISHNAV ARYA VAASUDEVAN,** vide affidavit dated 06.06.2026, sworn before Notary Bharati Patil., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I **AMITHA D,** C/o Devraj, aged about 44 years, R/at No.E-002, Keerthi Chalet Apartment, Coconut Grove Layout, Near Devamatha School, Horamavu Village, PO Horamavu, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560043.
I hereby declare that my Children's Birth Certificate name mentioned as **'ABHAY** and **AARADHYA'** I hereby declare that my children's correct and actual names **"ABHAY RAPHAEL"** and **"AARADHYA ROSALIA"** vide affidavit dated 06/06/2026 sworn before Advocate and Notary B Chitra, Bangalaore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Ravi M R, son of M K Raghavendra Rao, aged about 62 years, residing at # 365, Vidyapeeta Road BSK 3rd Stage Bengaluru, Karnataka, PIN: 560085, I have officially changed my name from **Ravi M R** to **Magal Raghavendrarao Ravi** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 5/6/2026 sworn to before S N Madhu Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DAYANAND.K** S/o Krishnappa .K, age 49 years, R/at No.93, 101, 1st Floor, Shivaganga Sahyarama, Sarvagna Circle, Subramanyapura, Benglauru-560 061 do hereby declare that in my son namely **HARSHITH .D**, in his educational records, my name is mentioned as **K. DAYNANDA** instead of correct name **DAYANAND.K,** vide affidavit dated 2nd June 2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary **K.N. RAMADEVI** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, PIYUSH TAK (OLD NAME), aged about 40 years, S/o Subhash Kumar Tak, Residing At Kanasavadi, Doddaballapur, Bengaluru District 561203, Karnataka Stage, have Changed my Name to **PIYUSH KUMAR TAK (NEW NAME),** vide affidavit dated 02/Jun/2026, sworn before Notary S. I. Balaguru, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) NAUSHAD ALI S/o MOTHEEN AHMED MOHAMED YUSUF, Residing at No. House No. 266/13, 1st Main Pillanna Garden, St. Thomas Town Post, Bangalore-560084, have changed my Name from **(OLD NAME) NAUSHAD ALI to (NEW NAME) MOHAMMED NAUSHAD ALI,** Vide Affidavit Dated 06.06.2026, sworn before Notary Prasad Shetty K.B., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, **Pugazharasan Selvanathan** and **Subha Sundari Sekhar,** parents of **ISHAN PUGAL,** both residing at: Flat No.12283, Prestige Lakeside Habitat, 28/2, SH35, Devasthanagalu, Gunjur, Varthur, Bangalore-560087. Hereby declare that, we have changed our minor Son's name from **'ISHAN P & ISHAN PUGAZHARASAN'** to **'ISHAN PUGAL',** vide Affidavit dated 06.06.2026, Sworn before Advocate and Notary A.M. Rajasekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **LAKSHMI KUMARI K S** W/o Sri. Narayanamurthy, Resident of No. 16/1, 7th Cross, 7th Main Road, Subbanna Garden, Vijayanagar, Bangalore North, Bengaluru-560040, Karnataka, India, do hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name from **LAKSHMI** to **LAKSHMI KUMARI K S** vide affidavit dated. 06.06.2026 sworn to before Notary, **H S Sakalesh Aradhya, Bengaluru.**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ROOPA.S,** D/o Srinivas .M, age 42 yers, R/at No. 93, 101, 1st Floor, Shivaganga Sathyarama Sarvagna Circle, Subramanyapura, Bengaluru-560 061 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **ROOPA.S** and **S.ROOPA** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **ROOPA.S** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 22nd April 2026, sworn before Advocate and Notary **K.N. RAMADEVI** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SAYIVALSALA,** aged about 69 years, W/o. late A Subramanya, residing at #6, Ayappa Nilaya, Santosh Reddy Layout, Reliance Tower, Ramamoorthi Nagar, Bengaluru560016, Karnataka State, have changed my name to **P SAI VALSALA,** vide affidavit dated: 05.06.2026 before Notary **L.Gopalakrishna,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAJESH FATHARAM (OLD NAME), aged about 42 years, S/o Fatharam, Residing at No. 04, 5th Cross, P. S Lane, Cottonpet, Bengaluru 560053, Karnataka State, have changed my Name to **RAJESH (NEW NAME),** vide affidavit dated 05/Jun/2026, sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) GUNASEKARAN ETHIRAJU S/o Ethiraju, Residing at No. 44/8, 4TH CROSS, RAMASWAMY PALYA, MARUTHI SEVANAGAR, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA 560033, have changed my Name from **(OLD NAME) GUNASEKARAN ETHIRAJU to (NEW NAME) GUNASEKARAN,** Vide Affidavit Dated 02.06.2026, sworn before Notary Uday Kumar K., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, **Sri. Ranjeet Singh** and **Smt. Devi Kumari A,** residing at No. 883, 7 L 20, Siddapaji Temple Road, Lashkar Mohalla, Kumbargeri, Mysuru, Karnataka-570011. Hereby declare that, we have changed our minor Son's (D.O.B. 16.11.2023) name from **'PRAYAN SINGH'** to **'PRANAV R',** vide Affidavit dated 03.06.2026, Sworn before Advocate and Notary Hemalatha.P, Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **Rangappa Hanumappa Talwar Simikere** S/o. Hanumappa Talwar, Aged about 74 years, R/at D-4, 387, SFS 407, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore - 560 064. I state that in my Delivery Instruction Slip Book (Client ID: 20073558) my name was shown as **Rangappa Hanumappa Talwar.** My correct name is **Rangappa Hanumappa Talwar Simikere.** Both names **Rangappa Hanumappa Talwar Simikere** & **Rangappa Hanumappa Talwar** pertains to me only. I declare that hereinafter my name will be **RANGAPPA HANUMAPPA TALWAR SIMIKERE** Vide affidavit dated 03.06.2026 sworn before Notary G. P. Chaya Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Deborah Dolores MANNAS** W/o. Abraham KOSHY, resident of #5, 5th Cross, Hutchins Road, St. Thomas Town Post, Bengaluru 560084, have changed my name to **Deborah Dolores KOSHY** and for all official purposes, I may be known and called as **Deborah Dolores KOSHY**, vide Affidavit Dated: 08/10/2025, sworn before Notary **MEER HASSAN,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **No.JC-245291F,** Ex-Sub **Vijaya Kumar S,** S/o. Selva Raj, residing at #136, 4th Main Road, 3rd Cross, K H Ranganatha Colony, JJR Nagar, Bengaluru South,Bengaluru 560018, have changed the name of my son from **Bharath Prasanna** to **V Bharath Prasanna,** vide Affidavit Dated: 05/06/2026, sworn before XXIXAddl. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru City.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) RAJIV KUMAR GUPTA RESIDING AT No. NO. 462/37, 6th Cross, Mallathalll, Bengaluru, viswavidalaya, Bangalore-560056, have changed my Name from **(OLD NAME) RAJIV KUMAR GUPTA TO (NEW NAME) RAJEEV GUPTA** vide affidavit dated 05-06-2026 sworn before Notary K.V.Prema Kumari, BEML Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar , Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) RUKHSANA JAVEED MERCHANT, Residing at R C Elite Residency, Flat No.201, 2nd Floor 65 Hutchins Road, 2nd Cross, Cooke Town, Bengaluru North. St Thomas Town, Bengaluru - 560084, have changed my Name from **(OLD NAME) RUKHSANA JAVEED MERCHANT to (NEW NAME) RUKHSANA MERCHANT,** Vide Affidavit Dated 06.06.2026, sworn before Notary S.R.Nanjunda Swamy., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Kethan Sai Nallamothu** S/o Naveen Kumar Nallamothu aged about 17 years, Flat No. 408, 62/1, Pydapalms Apartments, Belathur Main Road, Kadugodi Post, Bengaluru, I have change my name Ketan Sai Nallamothu to **"KETHAN SAI NALLAMOTHU"** vide Affidavit date 03rd June 2026, Sworn before Notary Jayashree, Bengaluru-560067

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PRITI SHARMA D/O RAVI SHANKAR SHARMA is legally wedded spouse of ABHISHEK SHARMA presently residing at AIRFORCE STATION, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560063 have changed my name from PRITI SHARMA to PRITI KUMARI vide Affidavit Dated: 06-06-2026, sworn to before Notary Public S.R. Ravikumar, Bangalore.**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) K M KIRAN GUPTA, Residing at No. 462/37, 6th Cross, Mallathalli, Bengaluru, Vishwavidyalaya, Bengaluru - 560056, have changed my Name from **(OLDNAME) K M KIRAN GUPTA TO (NEW NAME) KIRAN GUPTA** Vide Affidavit Dated 05-06-2026 sworn before Notary K.V.Prema Kumari, BEML Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar , Bengaluru.

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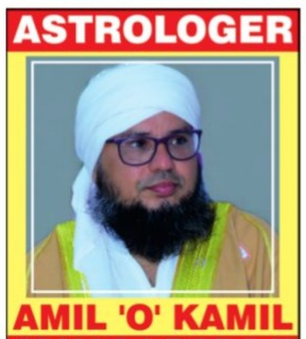
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RACHITA RAM
GETS HER NEXT BIG TELUGU BREAK, STARS IN CHIRANJEEVI'S *MEGA158*

Rachita Ram

Chiranjeevi

A SHARADHAA

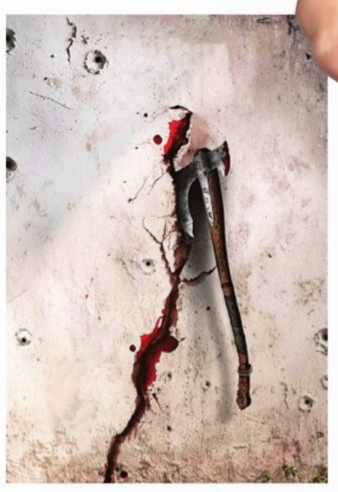
RACHITA Ram, who was last seen in a pivotal role in Rajinikanth's *Coolie*, has been carefully choosing her next steps. The actor has been focusing on projects that offer a wider reach across languages. That patience has now paid off in a big way.

The actor is set to feature in Telugu superstar Chiranjeevi's upcoming film, tentatively titled *Mega158*, and directed by Bobby Kolli. Rachita is said to have already joined the film's shoot in Pollachi, where she is currently filming alongside Chiranjeevi and the rest of the cast, which also includes Priyamani and Anaswara Rajan.

Interestingly, this marks a significant milestone in Rachita's Telugu journey. After making her Telugu debut opposite Kalyan Dhev in Super Machi, the actor took her time before signing another Telugu project. Her return to the industry now comes alongside one of its biggest stars, making it a major career move.

The film will also mark Rachita's first collaboration with producer Venkat K Narayana, who is backing the project under KVN Productions. The banner, which is making its Telugu debut with *Mega158*, has already established a presence across multiple languages with projects such as Toxic: A Fairy Tale for Grown-Ups.

For Bobby Kolli, the film marks a reunion with Chiranjeevi after the success of Waltair Veerayya. The screenplay has been written by Kona



Venkat and K Chakravarthy Reddy, with Hari Mohana Krishna and Vineeth Potluri serving as additional screenplay writers. Dialogues for the untitled film are being penned by the Bhanu-Nandu duo.

The technical team of the upcoming film includes S Thaman as music director, while Vijay Kartik Kannan handles cinematography. Avinash Kolla serves as the production designer, and Antony L Ruben is overseeing the editing.

Back in Kannada cinema, Rachita has an equally busy slate. *Ayogya 2*, directed by Mahesh Kumar and co-starring Sathish Ninasam, is gearing up for release. She is also working on *Criminal*, directed by Raj Guru and starring Dhruva Sarja, which is currently under production.

Meanwhile, sources reveal that Rachita is also in discussions with a few Tamil filmmakers and could soon finalise a project, potentially expanding her footprint further across South Indian cinema.

After *Coolie* with Rajinikanth, Rachita Ram lands a major Telugu project, playing a prominent role in Bobby Kolli's directorial, which is led by Chiranjeevi, has begun shoot in Pollachi

Thriller Manju
returns to direction with *Deadly Killer*

CE FEATURES

FOR Kannada cinema audiences, Thriller Manju has long been synonymous with high-octane action. After spending years choreographing some of the industry's most memorable stunt sequences, the veteran action director is stepping back into the director's chair with *Deadly Killer*, his first directorial venture since Police Story nearly 15 years ago.

Produced by Prashanth T Tambrallimath under Keerthi Silver Screen and Vedik Cosmos, *Deadly Killer* blends action, suspense, thriller, and horror elements into a fast-paced narrative. The film stars Sambhrama-fame Abhay Veer alongside Neviksha in the lead roles.

The trailer of the film was recently unveiled by actor Ragini Dwivedi, who shared a personal connection with Thriller Manju. Recalling her early days in the industry, Ragini said Manju had choreographed action for her debut film. She also urged audiences to support newcomers and encourage Kannada cinema.

Speaking about the project, Thriller Manju revealed that he had narrated the story to Abhay Veer long ago. Impressed by the concept, the actor himself brought the producer on board. "The story moves at a rapid pace and is packed with suspense. Abhay has delivered a strong performance, and I believe he has the potential to become a star," said the director.

Deadly Killer follows six gangsters who escape into a forest and the protagonist's efforts to track, trap, and bring them down. The film features six uniquely designed action sequences choreographed by Manju himself.

Team Deadly Killer

Jennifer Holland, Dave Annable to headline *Brine*

CE FEATURES

ACTORS Jennifer Holland (*Peacemaker*) and Dave Annable (*Lioness*) are set to topline the upcoming Civil War-era supernatural thriller, *Brine*, with documentary filmmaker BJ Golnick to take care of the directorial duties. Starring alongside Holland and Annable are Jonah Wharton (Lioness), Grayson Lay (*Outer Banks*) and Sissy Sheridan (*Chicken Girls*).

With Jeremy Miller producing, the film follows a family of Confederate deserters who escape the Union bombardment of Fort Pulaski and disappear into the Georgia marshlands with a cache of stolen gold. What they thought of as an escape to safety, hiding in a remote plantation house, reveals itself as a part of something ancient, predatory and impossible to make it through.

In addition to HBO Max & DC's Peacemaker, Holland's credits include The Suicide Squad, Guardians of the Galaxy Vol 3 and Black Adam. Annable is also known for Brothers & Sisters, Walker, The Waterfront, What/If and Yellowstone.

Nee Nange Allava WRAPS SHOOT, EYES AUGUST RELEASE

Team Nee Nange Allava

CE FEATURES

AT first glance, *Nee Nange Allava* sounds like a straightforward love story. But according to director Manoj P Nadalumane, the upcoming Kannada film has much more in store. Produced by Jayaram Devasamudra under the Suram Movies banner, the upcoming film stars Rahul Arkat and Kashi Ma in the lead roles and is gearing up for a theatrical release in August. Manoj, who marks his third directorial venture with the upcoming project, reveals that the film is a blend of emotions, drama and entertainment. "The title may suggest a love story, but the film has all the ingredients audiences look for in a complete entertainer," says the director. "We have shot the film across Bengaluru, Mangaluru and Udupi, and every member of the team has played a part in shaping it."

The director is particularly pleased with the performances of Rahul Arkat and Kashi Ma, adding that the film has benefited from a committed cast and crew working towards a common vision. Producer Jayaram Devasamudra says it was the story that convinced him to back the project. "The moment Manoj narrated the script, I knew there was something special about it," he says. "We've received a lot of encouragement since our first production, and we hope audiences will embrace this film in the same way." For Rahul Arkat, who plays a character named Lucky, the project holds a special place. "Lucky is a character I instantly connected with," says the actor. "I'm thankful to the director and producer for giving me this opportunity."

The film also marks the acting debut of Kashi Ma, who plays Khushi. While the newcomer is keeping details about her role under wraps, she describes the film as an important first step in her career. Behind the scenes, *Nee Nange Allava* boasts a strong technical team, with cinematography by Udayaleela, music by Suraj Joyis and editing by National Award-winning editor Nagendra Ujjani.

A still from the film

Henry Cavill joins Kevin Hart for a spy-action comedy

CE FEATURES

WE previously reported that filmmaker McG, known for *Charlie's Angels* and *Terminator: Salvation*, was uniting with Kevin Hart for Netflix's upcoming high-concept action-comedy. The latest update is that *Man of Steel* star Henry Cavill has joined the cast.

The yet-to-be-titled film is based on a short story by Sean Lewis. According to the makers, it follows two rival spies who meet in a Lamaze class, where their wives instantly become friends. Soon, their double lives collide in hilarious ways, and they are forced to forge a reluctant relationship as they journey towards fatherhood.

Both Cavill and Hart will be playing the spies. Details on the other members of the cast have been kept under wraps. The film, which Adam, Aaron Nee and Jonathan Tropper are writing, is produced by Shawn Levy, Dan Levine and Emily Morris for 21 Laps, the banner behind *Stranger Things*.

Bill Nighy joins John Wick spinoff Caine

CE FEATURES

THE Pirates of the Caribbean actor Bill Nighy has been attached to the upcoming John Wick spinoff series Caine, directed by martial arts master Donnie Yen. Yen, who played the blind assassin in John Wick: Chapter 4, is helming and starring in the film produced by Summit Entertainment, Thunder Road Films and 87Eleven Entertainment. The film is set chronologically after the events of John Wick: Chapter 4. The upcoming film is in production in Budapest and Hong Kong.

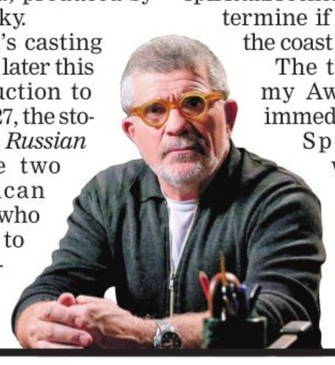
Also part of the cast are Mason Thames (The Black Phone) and Dacre Montgomery (Stranger Things), as well as Rina Sawayama, reprising her role as Akira in John Wick 4. Scribe Tomlin, writer of The Batman Part II and the adaptation of the Keanu Reeves comic book BRZRKR, has penned the script in association with Michael McGrale.

David Mamet to helm *Russian Poland*

CE FEATURES

PULITZER-winning playwright David Mamet is set to direct an upcoming World War 2 drama, *Russian Poland,* produced by Barry Germansky.

With the film's casting set to be decided later this year and production to commence in 2027, the story is set in 1948's *Russian Poland,* where two Jewish-American WWII veterans who steal a bomber to run arms to Israel disguised as British airmen. They meet an elderly Holocaust survivor on a flight, where he utters strange parables about a vanished shtetl (a small Jewish town). These parables transform the duo's mission into a spiritual reckoning that may determine if the three reach the coast alive.



The two-time Academy Award nominee's immediate next film is Speed-the-Plow, which is set to feature Anthony Mackie, Emily Alyn Lind, Ben Mendelsohn, and Sharon Stone.